

INDONESIA AFTER SUHARTO

Herald Tribune

INTERNATIONAL



PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

The World's Daily Newspaper

R Paris, Friday, May 22, 1998

No. 35,837

New President Pledges Reform and Democracy

But There Are 2 Visions of How to Change

By Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service**JAKARTA** — Two images in the Indonesian kaleidoscope capture the tug-of-war whose outcome will define this country for years or decades to come.

Pulling at one end of the rope, so to speak, was an angry protest leader shouting into the microphone at an outside rally Thursday, demanding that the new president, B. J. Habibie, be ousted and that former President Suharto be

To show his seriousness, the protester then shaved his head with electric clippers and announced to thunderous applause:

"I will keep my head shaved until Suharto is hanged!"

The other image comes from the other end of the rope: General Wiranto, the armed forces commander, all starch and backbone and crisp authority, stepping to a microphone on Thursday morning and declaring that the armed forces endorse the presidency of Mr. Habibie and will protect Mr. Suharto and his family.

Mr. Suharto's resignation Thursday morning was a landmark in modern Asian history, perhaps marking the end of the era of strongman rule that prevailed in the region during the Cold War, but it left Indonesia itself a bi-

liefid for competing visions of the future.

Fundamentally, one side wants to change the entire system, while the other prefers to keep the system but substitute a new face — Mr. Habibie's — in the presidential portraits that seem to hang on every wall.

This struggle, over whether to preserve Mr. Suharto's system even after jettisoning Mr. Suharto himself, will affect not only Indonesia but also the many other countries in the region.

The university students see Mr. Suharto's downfall as a historic opportunity to institute a much more

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And Habibie Is Faulted as Part of Old Order

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service**JAKARTA** — Indonesia's new president, B. J. Habibie, spoke to the nation for the first time on Thursday evening, outlining a program of reform, clean government and economic responsibility that addressed key criticisms leveled against his predecessor, Suharto, who resigned under pressure earlier in the day.

Sitting behind a large nameplate reading "President," Mr. Habibie said he had been "enormously impressed" by the accelerating popular movement for reform and by the struggle of student protesters, the vanguard of the oppo-

sition movement that brought down Mr. Suharto after 32 years in power.

Mr. Habibie, 61, who had been Mr. Suharto's vice president and loyal retainer, pledged to dedicate himself to reforms and democratization "in order to create a political atmosphere and clean governance free from corruption, collusion and nepotism and to create an economic life of more equitable opportunity."

Government officials said Mr. Habibie was due to announce his cabinet lineup on Friday morning in the most crucial indicator of whether his government will break with the cronyism that made Mr. Suharto's governments so unpopular.

But many of the protesters who had demanded Mr. Suharto's resignation remained unsatisfied, calling Mr. Habibie a part of the old order who also had to go. There were calls for a special electoral assembly to nominate a new president. Some of the students who have occupied the Parliament building for four days, demanding Mr. Suharto's resignation, said they would not leave until Mr. Habibie, too, was removed.

Many political analysts voiced doubts that Mr. Habibie had either the background or the political clout to lead this huge and fractious country through its time of turmoil and predicted that he

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Ulster's Day to Decide
'Yes' or 'No' to Peace

Huge Turnouts Expected for Referendum

By T. R. Reid
and Dan Balz
Washington Post Service

mercy of terrorists," said Charles Mercer, a retired vicar who raises a British flag each morning atop his home in Bangor.

The island is divided between the Republic of Ireland, an independent nation of 3.3 million, and Northern Ireland, a British province with a population of 1.6 million.

Adams gives 'yes' campaign an image problem. Page 6.

A significant, largely Roman Catholic, minority in the North wants the province to break with Britain and form one nation with the Republic. Protestant northerners want to retain political union with Britain.

The debate here has been primarily political, not religious. Still, sectarian differences fueled mutual hatred that sparked into civil war in 1969.

Friday marks the first time that the people have had a chance to make a choice at the ballot box. To become law, the plan needs majority approval from voters in both jurisdictions.

They will vote either "yes" or "no" on a 68-page plan that was settled on Good Friday, after two years of negotiations among eight Northern Ireland political parties and the governments of Ireland and Britain.

"This is the best chance in a lifetime for peace in Ireland," Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain argued passionately Thursday.

But opponents contend that the plan would lead to more violence and would undermine the status of the pro-British Protestant majority in Northern Ireland.

"This so-called peace proposal would mean the end of the union with Great Britain" and leave us at the

See IRELAND, Page 5

Pushing for a "yes" vote in the peace referendum, John Hume arrived in a thumbs-up mood for a meeting with Tony Blair. Just as fervent was Bob McCartney while he campaigned Thursday in the streets of Northern Ireland for a "no" vote.



Newstand Prices			
Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon	LL 3,000
Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	16 Dh
Cameroon	1,600 CFA	Qatar	10.00 QR
Egypt	£E 5.50	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10 SR
Gibraltar	1.100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Italy	2,800 Lire	Spain	225 Pes
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	Tunisia	1,250 DIn
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.A.E.	10.00 Dh
Kuwait	700 Fils	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	\$1.20

The Dollar		
New York	Thursday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.7585	1.7703
Pound	1.6305	1.6333
Yen	134.95	138.01
FF	5.8925	5.8985
The Dow		
Thursday close	previous close	
39,11	9132.37	9171.48
S&P 500		
change	Thursday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
4.42	1114.54	1119.06



The Repercussions of Events in Jakarta

The resignation of President Suharto is the latest and most vivid sign of how the Asian financial crisis is changing the political landscape throughout the region. Page 4.

Mr. Suharto led his country from being a backwater to the brink of prosperity. But his legacy is also one of corruption. His successor, B. J.

Habibie, who has a reputation as a brilliant eccentric, has spent his career in the shadow of Mr. Suharto's patronage. Page 2.

The unrest in Jakarta has put the International Monetary Fund's rescue plan on hold. Page 2. Asian stock and currency markets first struggled with and then welcomed the

news of President Suharto's resignation. But analysts said the gains could easily vanish. Page 4.

The Timorese Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Jose Ramos-Horta, predicted that anti-government protests would continue and that the new president, Mr. Habibie, would last only a few days in office. Page 2.

AGENDA

Student, 15, Goes on Shooting Spree in Oregon

SPRINGFIELD, Oregon (AP) — A day after being expelled for having a gun, a 15-year-old student returned to school with a semiautomatic rifle and opened fire in the cafeteria Thursday, killing at least one person and wounding

two adults dead at the home of the suspect, who was not identified.

Witnesses saw the suspect run through the cafeteria firing his rifle. He was tackled by a student and arrested.

Saudi Nationals Were Dhahran Bombers

KUWAIT (AP) — Saudi Arabia's interior minister, Prince Nayef ibn Abdel Aziz, acknowledged for the first time Thursday that Saudi nationals

were behind the June 1996 bombing of a U.S. military base in the eastern city of Dhahran. He said the blast had been "carried out by Saudi hands."

As it celebrates its fourth graduating class, AUBG is

extraordinary how fast this university has caught on as an institution," said Avis Bohlen, the U.S. ambassador to Bulgaria.

Savina Velkova, a Sofia native who graduated in 1996 and stayed on as director of cultural events, puts it simply. At AUBG, she said, "You get more than a degree; you get a life."

The university has had relatively mild teething

pains. Local suspicions that Americans were starting a spy school had to be dispelled. Complaints have arisen from faculty members occasionally, apparently motivated by personal grievances.

Future funding is always a question. A current headache is the threatened tax on U.S. aid in Bulgaria, an outgrowth of a wider commercial dispute between Washington and Sofia. In the longer run, some U.S.-based academics worry about the long-term prospects of maintaining genuine standards at an American university operating in a politically volatile region.

But by one important measure, AUBG has arrived:

Bulgarian and other European executives are com-

peting to hire its graduates, who are seen as attractive because of the belief that their American-style education has equipped them well to operate in societies struggling to emerge from communism.

One of a graduating class of nearly 200 in 1996, nearly half have jobs with employers ranging from the Bulgarian Investment Bank to the Big Five accounting firms to advertising agencies. Another 50 are doing graduate work, most of them at big public universities in the United States such as the University of Oklahoma. Entrepreneurial graduates in Sofia have sold an innovative database to Swiss dentists.

This record encourages AUBG's directors in their belief that they can create a new Westernized elite in the Balkans. In fact, by many standards, the student body is elite.

AUBG operates completely in English, part of its ambition to replicate a U.S. educational environment. One student in five comes from outside Bulgaria. Candidates need not bother applying unless their combined score on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the standard U.S. university admission test, is near 1,200 out of a possible 1,400. That is at the high end of results

Fragile Start
For Successor
As Army Still
Plays BrokerBy Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune**JAKARTA** — Although Indonesia's vice president, B. J. Habibie, was named Thursday as the successor to President Suharto, the man who followed him to the microphone at the handover ceremony — the armed forces chief, General Wiranto — has emerged as the key power broker and may become the next president well before Mr. Habibie completes his term in 2003, analysts said.

While Mr. Suharto's departure was presented as a voluntary and statesmanlike gesture made in the national interest, officials and diplomats said he was forced to go after the military leadership told him he no longer had their support.

As maneuvering intensified to take control of the world's fourth most populous nation after the sudden end of Mr. Suharto's 32-year rule, the armed forces moved from the background to center stage as they did in the last succession crisis between 1965 and 1967 when they provided the muscle for Mr. Suharto, then an army general, to oust the country's founder, President Sukarno.

Speaking immediately after Mr. Habibie — a former cabinet minister and longtime friend of Mr. Suharto — was sworn in, General Wiranto said that the military supported his accession.

But he did so in terms that did not preclude Mr. Habibie's replacement during a special session of Indonesia's highest constitutional body, the People's Consultative Assembly, which many of the politicians and students who successfully sought Mr. Suharto's resignation are demanding on the grounds that Mr. Habibie is too closely tied to the man he replaced.

"I don't think Habibie has much chance of lasting very long," said Bruce Gale, regional manager of the Singapore office of Political & Economic Risk Consultancy Ltd. "He is an interim president who is tainted by his association with Suharto and lacks the domestic or international support he must have to push through the political and economic reforms that are needed if Indonesia is to recover."

Juwono Sudarsono, the environment minister, said the military had withdrawn its support from Mr. Suharto on Wednesday amid an intensifying wave of student-led demonstrations in Jakarta and other cities demanding his resignation and a warning from the House of Rep-

See ARMY, Page 5

In Bulgaria, Students Bone Up on Pax Americana

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

BLAGOEVGRAD, Bulgaria — They waited through the valedictorian's oration, through the hoary degree for a minor poet, through an address by a distinguished foreign ambassador, until finally the moment came when the provost pronounced them "Bachelors of Arts." Tasseled mortarboards were tossed into the air, only to be carefully retrieved for family photographs.

A graduation ceremony like so many others this month, this one came with a difference. The college is a U.S. implant in Bulgaria, the campus a seven-story steel-and-marble building.

Once the regional headquarters of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the building has become, as its concrete parapet proclaims in three-foot-high gilt letters in Cyrillic and in English, the "American University in Bulgaria."

AUBG — as the 600 students and 50 faculty call the school to differentiate it from AUB, the American University of Beirut — is a case study of how rewarding and how difficult it is to create a Western-style institution in Central Europe, where so many

dreams of post-Communist development have fizzled amid red tape, corruption and cultural rejection.

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lourished
of Patronage
Brilliant Eccentrics

Clinton Seeks to Muffle Criticism of China Sales

White House Calls House Vote to Ban Transfer Of Technology to Beijing 'Knee-Jerk Reaction'

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — The White House sought Thursday to quell an outpouring of congressional criticism about the administration's China policy, calling a vote in the House of Representatives to ban sales of U.S. satellite and missile technology to China a "knee-jerk reaction" to news reports.

All but a few Democrats joined the majority Republicans in a series of nearly unanimous votes to ban the technology exports. The votes were a stinging rebuke to the White House after allegations that Democratic campaign contributions had influenced the Clinton administration to waive a 1989 ban and allow civilian satellite technology to be sold to China.

With President Bill Clinton scheduled to visit China late next month, White House officials quickly sought to defuse the bipartisan criticism.

"Because we've got a little political controversy under way here in Washington," said Michael McCurry, the White House press secretary, "some members of Congress are urging that we blow up this relationship, and I think that is very short-sighted."

The measures passed by the House, if endorsed by the Senate and signed into law, would effectively ban exports of commercial satellites to China, potentially affecting deals worth hundreds of millions of dollars to U.S. companies.

Asked about calls from some in Congress for Mr. Clinton to cancel the trip to China, Mr. McCurry said that such sentiment explained why the executive branch handles foreign policy.

"Congress will make untemperate judgments that can do real damage to the role the U.S. plays in this world when it reacts to political stimuli rather than thoughtful reason," he said.

The allegations, being investigated by the Justice Department and both chambers of Congress, hold enormous potential to shake the Clinton administration, touching on questions of national security and on what many in the administration see as the country's most important emerging bilateral relationship.

The House votes are likely to be more symbolic than binding since they contain no enforcement provision and the final bill probably will not be enacted until after Mr. Clinton's China trip.

Mr. McCurry indicated that he thought Democrats had joined Republicans in the votes Wednesday out of fear of being caught on the wrong side of a politically charged issue with elections coming this fall.

"Nobody wants to make a vote that they're going to be subject to political criticism for," he said.

In one of four related amendments to a defense spending bill, the House said Mr. Clinton's approval of the export of a communications satellite on Feb. 18

"was not in the national interest."

The votes on the measures were lopsided. The amendment calling on Mr. Clinton to sign no new satellite or missile deals with China during his visit carried by a margin of 417 to 4.

The White House insisted that Mr. Clinton had done nothing wrong when he gave Loral Space & Communications Ltd. a new permit to have one of its satellites launched by a Chinese rocket.

The company allegedly provided technology to help in the launch that the Chinese might have used for military purposes. Bernard Schwartz, chief executive officer of Loral, gave \$632,000 to the Democrats during the 1996 election campaign.

Administration officials and Loral spokesmen have denied any connection between the donations and the president's decision.

The leader of the House Democratic minority, Richard Gephardt of Missouri, said Thursday that he opposed a plan by the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, to widen the investigation into the satellite exports and alleged Chinese influence in the White House.

The Senate began a investigation Thursday of technology transfers to China. One expert, John Pike of the Federation of American Scientists, told a Governmental Affairs subcommittee that the U.S. satellite technology would not have made much difference to China. Chinese missiles have been capable of hitting U.S. cities since 1981, he said.

But William Graham, science adviser to Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush, said that he had unsuccessfully counseled both presidents against satellite exports to China. The technology transfer "carries substantial risk to the United States and its allies," he said.

The prospect that an enemy state or terrorist group might unleash a deadly pathogen or toxin capable of killing tens of thousands of people in a U.S. city, has become an increasing concern among national security specialists. Although experts differ on the near-term likelihood of such a threat, Mr. Clinton's order will be the latest and most ambitious of several recent administration initiatives to improve the way military and civilian authorities cope with domestic attacks.

Mr. Clinton's personal interest in the subject is said by aides to have deepened in recent weeks, spurred by books and briefings. After listening in early April to an outside panel of seven specialists to discuss the poor condition of U.S. biological and chemical defenses, Mr. Clinton sought the group's recommendations on how to deal with a biological attack. In a 16-page report, the panel urged Mr. Clinton to begin the stockpile program and strengthen the ability of the nation's public health system to respond rapidly.

Details about how fast to build the stockpiles and how to pay for them are

still being discussed by senior administration officials. Plans call for Mr.

International Herald Tribune

THE AMERICAS



Media members setting up shop outside the Wisconsin store that sold the Powerball ticket.

Lucrative Lottery

Winning Ticket Pays \$195 Million

The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — One gambler out of the millions of dreamers who waited in long lines or drove into the next state in hopes of making a killing beat Powerball's 80 million-to-1 odds.

A ticket sold in southern Wisconsin for the Powerball jackpot drawing Wednesday night, worth a world-record \$195 million, was the only winner, lottery officials said Thursday. The winning numbers were 4, 9, 30, 34, 48 and Powerball 8. The winner's identity was not released.

The big ticket was sold in Walworth County, Wisconsin, at a store about 5 miles (3 kilometers) across the state line from Illinois, a non-Powerball state.

Pat Penio, owner of the Lakeside Country Store in Pel Lake, where the winning ticket was purchased, said customers suggested the payoff should be shared with the community of 1,200.

The winning player chose to receive an immediate payout, which meant the ticket was worth \$104.3 million. The full jackpot would have been paid out over 25 years — at roughly \$7.7 million a year.

Vaccine Stockpiling for Civilians to Be Ordered

By Bradley Graham
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has decided to order the stockpiling of vaccines and antibiotics to treat huge numbers of civilians in the event of an attack against the United States with biological weapons, according to sources familiar with the plan.

While the Pentagon already has accumulated some medicines to shield troops from a handful of germ warfare agents, no similar reserves exist for civilians.

The prospect that an enemy state or terrorist group might unleash a deadly pathogen or toxin capable of killing tens of thousands of people in a U.S. city, has become an increasing concern among national security specialists.

Although experts differ on the near-term likelihood of such a threat, Mr. Clinton's order will be the latest and most ambitious of several recent administration initiatives to improve the way military and civilian authorities cope with domestic attacks.

Establishing stockpiles for dozens of U.S. cities could easily cost billions of dollars and require years before adequate levels are reached, experts say. A Pentagon program to develop and produce as many as 18 new vaccines to protect U.S. military forces during wartime was initiated last year at an estimated cost of \$320 million over five years.

A civilian stockpile program would cover a much larger population and require millions more doses.

It also would require scientific innovations.

Anthrax is the only potential germ weapon for which a vaccine has been licensed by the Food and Drug Administration and that is being produced in the United States. Other vac-

cines are under development but have yet to prove safe for human use.

While there is little support for inoculating all civilians as a preventive measure, vaccines might be administered to local emergency crews. They also might be used to contain an attack in one part of the country or be applied to attack victims to build up their immunological response.

A group of outside specialists, also commissioned by the administration but separate from the one that briefed Mr. Clinton, has listed five agents that present the most immediate menace: anthrax, smallpox, plague, tularemia and botulinum toxin.

Recent defense studies have warned of an increased risk of biological or chemical attack, citing the spread of information about how to produce and deliver poisonous agents and efforts by hostile states and terrorist groups.

After Blackout, an Appreciation of Pagers

By Laurence Zuckerman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Tens of millions of Americans have become keenly aware of their dependence on yet another space age technology after a communications satellite orbiting above the Equator went on the blink.

But satellite-industry analysts and executives described the problem as an extremely rare event and said that as more satellites were lofted into space in the next two years, the number of spares would increase.

The problem that paralyzed PanAmSat's Galaxy IV satellite, circling the Earth at a height of 22,300 miles (35,700 kilometers), knocked out the transmission of some television and radio signals as well as data. But the crippling of much of the nation's pager network created the greatest inconvenience.

Workers around the country who had come to depend on their beepers for everything

from emergency calls to the price of soybeans were suddenly in the dark. As in a major electricity blackout or the disruption of telephone service, users suddenly realized how much they had taken technology for granted.

"The paging companies are learning that a lot of people really rely on this stuff," said Clayton Mowry, director of the Satellite Industry Association. "There may be some reconsideration of how these guys use services in terms of having backup capacity."

The satellite industry sprang from the imagination of the writer Arthur Clarke in the 1940s and only began growing commercially in the early 1980s. It is now a \$31 billion industry that is expanding 14 percent a year, Mr. Mowry said.

Paging, which requires only a small amount of bandwidth, or transmission capacity, represents a tiny fraction of the industry's overall sales. Satellite networks connect grocery stores with their warehouses;

they allow people to add fuel to their cars with the swipe of a credit card at the pump, and they transmit up-to-the-minute data to financial traders.

"You don't look at the dish on top of the Piggy Wiggly and the Safeway, but it is there," Mr. Mowry said, referring to two U.S. supermarket chains.

One reason the failure was so notable was that satellites have been so reliable. There have been many problems launching them in recent years, but once in place they rarely malfunction.

"We're very dependent on it because it is a very efficient infrastructure," said Robert Kainowitz, satellite-industry analyst at C.E. Unterberg, Towbin, a New York investment bank.

Frederick Landman, chief executive of PanAmSat, said that nearly 200 commercial satellites were in orbit and that the failure rate was less than 1 percent.

PanAmSat Says Full Service Won't Be Restored for a Week

The Associated Press

GREENWICH, Connecticut — PanAmSat continued shifting signals onto its other satellites Thursday to restore service to millions of people who rely on pagers, but the company said it would take about a week to provide full service.

Service was knocked out from 80 to 90 percent of the 45 million pagers in the United States, and television and radio broadcasts were knocked off the air Tuesday night when PanAmSat's Galaxy IV satellite suddenly lost track of the Earth. But those who rely on pagers and other similar devices found ways to cope when technology let them down.

Ralph Griffith of Plano, Texas, was waiting to hear about the lung transplant he needs when his pager went on the blink. He said he planned to stay home by the phone "until this is straightened out."

At the University of Pennsylvania Health System in Philadelphia, nearly all 2,000 pagers were idled, forcing it to pull old wire-based pagers out of storage. "It's clearly been a major disruption for us," said Dr. David Shulkin. "In the medical profession, this is the equivalent to a large snow storm where people have to scramble to get the job done."

Wisconsin Clinics Again Performing Abortions

Washington Post Service

CHICAGO — Medical clinics in Wisconsin have resumed performing first-trimester abortions after local law enforcement officials reassured them that physicians would not be prosecuted under a new state law that bans abortion as a mandatory sentence of life in prison.

Doctors and abortion-rights groups say the law is unclear and could be interpreted to apply to all abortions, not just late-term procedures. A federal appeals court Tuesday refused to temporarily suspend the new law pending a hearing on its constitutionality.

But prosecutors in Milwaukee, Appleton and Madison offered their assurances that doctors in their jurisdictions

would not be prosecuted for performing abortions in the first trimester and up to the 16th week of a woman's pregnancy.

The new law bans a procedure in which a late-term fetus is partly delivered and aborted. Physicians convicted of performing such abortions face a mandatory sentence of life in prison.

Concerned that the new law was unclear and might leave them vulnerable to prosecution, physicians throughout the state balked abortions after the law took effect last week.

Now, with the official assurances, Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers said Wednesday that they would resume performing abortions.

POLITICAL NOTES

Term-Limit Crusade Loses Steam

CAMP HILL, Pennsylvania — Here lie the tanners of the term-limits movement: disconnected phones, empty doughnut boxes, blank computer screens and an exhausted, unshaven congressional candidate, slumped in a chair in shorts.

Charles Gerow, 42, a conservative Republican, carried the term-limits banner into his primary election campaign here in south-central Pennsylvania. In the voting on Tuesday, Mr. Gerow got crushed: Final returns showed him losing to Representative William Goodling, a 12-term incumbent, decisively, by 2 to 1. The defeat was a blow to term-limits supporters. And it underscores the depths to which the movement has sunk.

Once the promising child of Republican revolutionaries, term limits have become to many in the party the crazy aunt who is stashed in the attic for fear she will embarrass the family. (NYT)

Senate Clears Cigarette-Tax Smoke

WASHINGTON — The Senate has handily rejected the main alternatives to a \$1.10-per-pack increase in the federal fees imposed on cigarettes over the next five years.

First, by a 72-to-26 vote, the senators on Wednesday defeated a Republican proposal to remove all taxes and fees from the tobacco legislation now under consideration. Then, the Senate voted, 58 to 40, to kill a Democratic amendment to make the tax increase \$1.50 over three years.

While many more votes are on tap before the Senate disposes of the tobacco bill, Wednesday's votes had important implications.

The first is that anti-smoking forces command enough votes in the Senate to pass a bill that would sharply raise the price of cigarettes. A second is that there is general agreement that the \$1.10-per-pack increase favored by President Bill Clinton and Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, the chief sponsor of the legislation before the Senate, will probably become part of whatever bill comes out of the Senate. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Representative Christopher Cox, Republican of California, characterizing the spirit of his panel's investigation of the administration's export of space technology to China: "There's a model that may or may not be appropriate in other contexts but we won't follow it — the congressional bearing as political theater."

Away From Politics

• The government launched a campaign to warn beachgoers that today's sun tan may be tomorrow's skin cancer. The advice is simple: wear a hat, don sunglasses, apply sunscreen or just avoid the sun during peak midday hours.

• The sun is not a toy — use as directed,

warned Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala.

• Red-light runners cause 250,000 traffic crashes a year and a growing number of deaths, according to a new study. The number of fatal crashes involving red-light running has increased 15 percent, from 702 in 1992 to 809 in 1996, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety said. In those years, 3,753 such crashes killed 4,238 people.

(AP)

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Indonesia After Suharto / 'First Step Toward Recovery'

Asia's Changing Landscape: 'There's No Turning Back' on Democracy

By Kevin Sullivan
Washington Post Service

SEOUL — The resignation of President Suharto is the latest and most vivid sign of how the Asian financial crisis is changing the political landscape throughout their region, analysts and others across Asia said Thursday.

"We're ushering in a new era of democracy," said Park Jin, a professor at Yonsei University in Seoul. "There's no turning back now."

President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines called Mr. Suharto's resignation a "first step toward recovery," and leaders and legislators and people in the street across Asia said that Mr. Suharto's departure was a hopeful sign that financial pressures were forcing the old-style Asian dictatorships aside in favor of more democracy.

"With this epoch-making step contributing to historical momentum, Indonesia, we hope, will foster itself as a country where democracy and human rights are respected to the fullest," said Shin Ki Nam, a spokesman for the ruling National Congress for New Politics in Seoul.

Indonesia is now the third Asian country,

along with South Korea and Thailand, with a new leader since the crisis hit last year. Japan's prime minister is fighting for his political life because of economic problems. And, with the region's finances splintering all around, China has put economics at center stage with the appointment of a market-savvy prime minister, Zhu Rongji.

The region is in a transition period as it copes with new economic realities and recreates itself for the 21st century, much as it recreated itself from poverty to affluence in the second half of this century. It is far from clear what the new Asian political model will look like, but analysts agree that it will probably be far more democratic, with power likely to move out of the hands of the few and into the hands of the many.

"The general trend is a move from development-oriented dictatorship to a government more supported by the people," said Akio Watanabe, professor of politics at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo. "I could never have imagined how quickly things would change."

While the Asian financial crisis has caused untold pain as companies go bankrupt and workers lose jobs, the silver lining may be the political changes that it has forced, such as the Suharto

resignation, which President Bill Clinton described as "an opportunity for the Indonesian people to come together and build a stable democracy for the future."

For three decades, Mr. Suharto, like many authoritarian Asian leaders, knew how to out-muscle political opponents and dissidents. But he was unequipped to fend off the more complicated international market forces and global economic that challenged his rule.

"While the economy was booming, those people who supported 'Asian values' had some justification," said Hyun Hong Choo, former South Korean ambassador to the United States. "But this financial crisis told us that the root cause of our problems had something to do with the political system. People in the street, as well as the political leaders, have had a revelation that belief in Asian values is not well-founded."

No one was more cheered by Mr. Suharto's resignation than people in South Korea, a nation where democracy was wrested only recently from the hands of military dictators who ruled from the 1960s until 1987. Mr. Shin, the ruling party spokesman, called Mr. Suharto's decision "wise and courageous" and a "victory for democracy."

The long-time dissident Kim Dae Jung was elected to the presidency in December by voters terrified of the economic collapse that was pushing their nation toward bankruptcy. Angry at the inaction of former President Kim Young Sam, who reacted to the economic crisis like a deer in the headlights, voters turned to a candidate who promised long-overdue reforms to the nation's fiscal policies and giant corporate chaebol.

It was Mr. Kim's fourth run for the presidency, and without the economic crisis to propel him, it is unclear that he would have won.

In Japan on Thursday, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto cautiously welcomed Mr. Suharto's resignation.

"We will continue to support the Indonesian people's efforts at reform," Mr. Hashimoto said. "We are hoping that Indonesia will be able to ensure social stability and economic recovery as soon as possible."

But Mr. Hashimoto had to be wondering if he will be next. The economic chaos in Indonesia is a potential disaster for Japan, which is already suffering severe economic problems that are threatening to cost Mr. Hashimoto his job.

Japanese banks hold about 40 percent of Indonesia's foreign debt, a serious exposure for a banking system already in crisis.

■ Washington Is Cool on Habibie

The New York Times reported from Washington:

Despite the optimistic tone of Mr. Clinton's statement, administration officials said that the United States was still alarmed about the political situation in Indonesia, and especially about suggestions that Mr. Suharto's successor, B.J. Habibie, might try to serve out the remaining five years of Mr. Suharto's term.

They said the appointment of Mr. Habibie did not satisfy the demands of the United States and of Indonesia's anti-government protesters—for a democratic transition of power involving new elections.

"In the end, this will probably satisfy nobody," an administration official involved in Indonesia's policy said. "We have to look beyond Habibie because no one will accept him as president for more than a short time. It's a handful of army generals who will now determine what happens."

Asian Markets Cheer Suharto Resignation

By Philip Segal
International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — Asian stock and currency markets struggled with and then welcomed the news of President Suharto's resignation Thursday. But analysts said the gains could easily vanish if Indonesia's political future remained muddy, or if the newly sworn-in president, B.J. Habibie, lived up to his reputation as a profligate spender.

Every major currency in Asia except the Philippine peso and the Indian rupee strengthened against the dollar Thursday, led by the yen, which rallied in Tokyo trading.

Japan is Indonesia's biggest lender, and the avoidance of the bloodshed that many had expected would continue if Mr. Suharto remained in office was partly responsible for the currency's recovery.

The dollar fell from 135.45 yen before Mr. Suharto announced his resignation to 134.85 yen before weakening slightly as markets continued to digest the prospects of a Habibie presidency. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 stock index rose 1.2 percent.

The idea that investors should cheer news of Mr. Habibie's rise to the top job in Indonesia shows just how far the country has sunk since early March, when rumors that Mr. Suharto would thumb his nose at the International Monetary Fund by naming Mr. Habibie as his running mate caused the rupiah to plummet.

Between March 8 and March 11, when Mr. Habibie was designated for the vice presidency, the dollar surged from 8.875 rupiah to 12,500 rupiah.

But many analysts said that far too little information had come out of Indonesia to draw more than the most preliminary conclusions about what may come.

"It's much, much too early to work out what this means, and I don't think the markets have done so," said Richard Margolis, first vice president at Merrill Lynch in Hong Kong.

"I don't think there's enough evidence even for the instinctive nature of markets to get to work."

Rather than welcoming Mr. Habibie, in fact, it seemed entirely possible that markets had reacted positively to the prospect that his term might be brief.

The Singapore dollar initially fell against the U.S. dollar on news of the Habibie appointment but then rose along with the Thai baht and the South Korean won. Markets in Indonesia were closed Thursday, but in thin trading the U.S. dollar was quoted at 11,000 rupiah, down about 1.4 percent.

The Straits Times Industrials stock index in Singapore advanced 3.6 percent. Stocks in Malaysia did even better, rising 4.29 percent. The two markets, geographically the two closest to Indonesia, retraced almost exactly their declines of May 6, when rioting spread across Indonesia and fears intensified in Malaysia and Singapore of masses of Indonesian refugees coming ashore there.

Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng Index was down 2 percent when news of Mr. Suharto's resignation hit. It immediately reversed course and showed a gain of 1.27 percent at the close.

When news of the resignation broke, "the market was very confused, up again, down again," said a salesman at Salomon Brothers in Hong Kong, who said rumors of an interest-rate cut in China rather than relief over Indonesia had been primarily responsible for erasing Hong Kong's early losses.

If Mr. Habibie hopes to restore confidence in the markets, he will have to win over such investors as Terrace Chum, a fund manager at Schroder Investment Management in Hong Kong.

"He's basically a very close friend of President Suharto, and he has the reputation of being a very big spender," said Mr. Chum, alluding to one of Mr. Habibie's old favorite projects, Indonesia's national airplane.

Some others were more bluntly skeptical. "If you still have money in Indonesia, it's time to write it off," Lye Thiam Woo, who helps manage \$200 million in currencies and securities at OUB Asset Management Ltd. in Singapore, told Bloomberg News.

But Roger Pyke at Barclays Global Investors Hong Kong, which he says has between \$10 million and \$100 million invested in Indonesia, said, "The international financial community on the whole should regard this as positive."

He acknowledged, however, that the avoidance of the bloodshed that probably would have followed if Mr. Suharto had not resigned was only a tentative first step for Indonesia.



Student protesters in Jakarta waving the flag on Thursday to celebrate the news of Mr. Suharto's resignation.

VISIONS:
Nation Is Divided

Continued from Page 1

democratic system of government. They want a free press, adversarial political parties, independent courts and a strong legislative branch, and they see no reason why the army should play a central role in the political process.

On the other side, many people in the establishment and the army emphasize the virtues of stability. They distrust the hukum-hukum of democracy and argue that the armed forces must play a central role in guiding the nation and in keeping it united.

It was those in the second camp who helped write the script for Mr. Suharto's departure, a script that stipulates that Mr. Habibie will remain president until the present term expires in 2003.

It was they, apparently including men like General Wiranto, who are determined to protect Mr. Suharto and assure him a dignified exit from the stage.

So now the protesters, fresh from baving brought down one president, are eager to rewrite that script and fell another.

On Thursday, tens of thousands of demonstrators poured into the Parliament building — which has become the focal point of the democracy movement, the Tiaman Square of Indonesia — and almost immediately turned from jubilation at Mr. Suharto's downfall to ratchet up their demands.

"First of all, Suharto," said Janes Nannalita, a 24-year-old student who was sitting on the floor of the Parliament building, flirting with a group of adoring women students who had gathered around him. "Then Habibie. Then the cabinet must be cleaned out of corruption and nepotism."

The women cooed admiringly and Mr. Nannalita, who seemed to relish the social opportunities of a struggle for democracy, straightened his back and added after a melodramatic pause: "One thing is certain: we will stay in this building until Habibie steps down."

That view seemed widespread among the students, with most saying that the occupation will continue indefinitely. Banners denouncing Mr. Habibie dangled from the windows, and posters on a budding "Democracy Wall" declared that "Habibie is Suharto's puppet. Do not accept him!"

Speakers at a rally outside emphasized the same theme, with one declaring: "Habibie is a water buffalo whom Suharto is leading by the nose."

The upshot is that the same forces that were arrayed against Mr. Suharto now are targeting Mr. Habibie. The problem for him is that he represents continuity — and continuity with the Suharto years is the last thing most people want.

Mr. Habibie was Mr. Suharto's protégé and friend, and he has little stature in society and almost no power base.

If the army is determined to keep Mr. Habibie in power, it could probably do so. But its intentions are unclear. One reason to think that he may be vulnerable is that in the past, relations between the armed forces and Mr. Habibie have been tense. The army may have gone along with his elevation as a favor to Mr. Suharto and as a show of support for the constitutional process, but the generals do not have the bonds of loyalty to the new president that they had to the old one.

So, if there is no secret deal under which the army has pledged to stand by Mr. Habibie, the generals may be willing



Indonesia at a Glance

Population:	210 million, the world's 4th most populous and largest Islamic nation; 89% of Indonesians are Muslims. Chinese, 2% of the population, control 75% of the nation's commerce.
1985-95 average annual growth in GDP:	
Economic sectors:	Contribution to GDP % of labor force
Agriculture, forestry, fishing	17.2% 45%
Manufacturing	24.3% 11%
Mining	10.2% 0.8%
Services	41.0% 33.5%

Sources: World Bank Development Report, Europa Yearbook, Birostatika

be should go to prison," said Aldo Mustopo, 25, a communications student.

His friend, Rasas Tejo, 21, scoffed at that. "Simply arrested?" he asked. "No. He should be hanged, like Louis XIV."

Mr. Tejo's major is international relations rather than history, and that may explain why he got the wrong Louis (it was Louis XVI) and method of execution (the guillotine). In any case, some of these kinds of statements in the Parliament building may simply be a matter of letting off steam.

It is difficult to imagine the student movement going eyeball-to-eyeball with the armed forces over the demand that Mr. Suharto be hanged, but the oratory still underscores the vast gulf in values between the protesters and the government.

The gulf was evident when Mr. Habibie offered the rival interpretation of Mr. Suharto's legacy.

In a speech Thursday night, he praised Mr. Suharto to the skies and concluded: "I sincerely believe that our people, our society, feel the same gratitude for his service."



Amien Rais, above, the Muslim opposition leader, speaking to the press Thursday after Mr. Suharto's resignation. General Wiranto, right, commenting at the presidential palace, said the army would maintain order.



Charles Dharapak/AP, The Associated Press

Dissidents Bitter About Suharto and Skeptical of Any Change

The Associated Press

JAKARTA — While many Indonesians cheered the resignation of President Suharto, some of those hardest hit by political repression during the past three decades were not rejoicing.

Dissidents and human rights activists said the swearing-in of President B.J. Habibie feared little would change.

Mr. Suharto has been criticized for supervising a government that has cracked down hard on political dissidents since he took power in 1966.

"Suharto's resignation is absolutely meaningless compared to all bad things," he said during the past 32 years, said Pramodya Ananta Toer, an author.

A prominent supporter of Sukarno,

Indonesia's first president, Mr. Pramodya was imprisoned after Mr. Suharto's military overthrow of Mr. Sukarno. Mr. Pramodya was freed in 1972, but remains under house arrest.

"Habibie is the same man as Suharto," said Muchtar Pakpahan, a labor leader who was sentenced to four years in jail for subversion. "He is also a source of collusion and nepotism."

He added: "I have been enormously impressed with the dynamics which have developed in the reform process, both those which have been expressed by the student protests and the more general desire for reform in the population and in Parliament."

He asked his listeners to be patient and to give him his support as he takes on the huge tasks left to him by Mr. Suharto, and some people seemed willing to oblige.

"I don't know what will happen, but today I am happy because maybe after this moment we have a new hope," said Setyo Budi, a police officer.

ARMY:
Key Power Broker

Continued from Page 1

representatives' speaker, Harmoko, that the legislature would hold a plenary session Friday to ask Mr. Suharto to step down unless he agreed to do so before then.

Mr. Sudarsono, who was deputy governor of the Defense Ministry's National Resistance Institute before being appointed to the cabinet in March, said that even though Mr. Habibie currently had the military's support, he might only be a temporary leader.

"I think the military have found it prudent to accept him at least as a temporary head-of-state," Mr. Sudarsono said on Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio. "If General Wiranto were to take over, there would be some suspicion that this was an apparent grab of military power."

General Wiranto, 51, was appointed commander-in-chief of the armed forces in February. In March, he was made defense minister.

He is widely seen as the main advocate of restraint in the military's handling of the three months of student protests against the tougher line of some other commanders, including Lieutenant General Prabowo Subianto, head of the army strategic reserves and a son-in-law of Mr. Suharto.

In seeking to calm the situation, General Wiranto positioned the military in the middle ground between the government and its critics, saying that the armed forces supported reform, but through peaceful and constitutional means.

Analysts said that General Prabowo, who owed his meteoric rise to his family and political connections, would be weakened by Mr. Suharto's resignation while General Wiranto and the military professionals who supported him had emerged stronger. "Prabowo without Suharto is a weakened Prabowo," said a former Indonesian official. "He is politically cornered."

A Western diplomat said that if Mr. Habibie failed to forestall moves to replace him in the special session of the People's Consultative Assembly, General Wiranto was likely to be a leading candidate to take his place.

"A lot of people are saying he's the right guy because of his moderate reputation and military background," said the diplomat. "With the right civilian as vice president, Wiranto could offer an appealing assurance of stability and reform."

General Wiranto would also be helped by his reputation for integrity, analysts said. "He seems to be a leader who plays things straight," Mr. Gale said. "In the recent protests, he tried to find a middle way and avoid confrontation for the sake of national stability and unity. He also avoided playing politics, unlike some other generals."

On Thursday, some students expressed fears that Mr. Habibie might not be able to control the army and that this would result in the military taking a dominant role in running the country.

Mr. Gale said he believed Indonesians would accept a military man in the top job again, "provided he was more responsive to demands for political reform and did not perpetuate a nepotistic regime."

Analysts said that relations between Mr. Habibie and the armed forces had been severely strained since he engineered a \$1 billion deal for 39 East German warships in 1994 without consulting the military or the Finance Ministry.

Mr. Habibie, then research and technology minister, forced the deal on the navy, in part to benefit the state-run shipbuilding industry he headed by giving it the business of refurbishing the vessels.

"That deal effectively crippled the military's budget for 10 years," said a Western military attaché.

Mr. Habibie, with Mr. Suharto's backing, also made it mandatory for the Indonesian armed forces to buy the products of other heavily subsidized "strategic" industries he operated that made planes and arms, even though the military preferred to buy more modern foreign weapons.

UNIVERSITY: Bulgaria-U.S. Hybrid

Continued from Page 1

obtained by American secondary-school students taking the same tests.

Most of the Bulgarians entrants learned their English, and their test-taking agility, by studying in their own country at "language high schools," special fast-track schools that enabled the Communist regime to turn gifted students into world-class linguists.

Aspiring to provide a liberal-arts education, AUBG emphasizes problem-solving in its teaching, even though the curriculum is weighted toward practical business applications. Economics and literature take a back seat to management and communications, skills in short supply in East European business.

"All these kids really want to learn stuff from the horse's mouth," said Bogdan Atanassov, a professor of English. "Business in America has been successful so students want to learn from teachers from the United States."

Whereas Bulgaria's state-run universities pay professors separately for their lectures and their tests, AUBG "intertwines teaching, examining and advising in professors' responsibilities," said Mark Stefanovich, a professor of European archaeology.

And the concept of a "graduation day" to celebrate class spirit and cultivate alumni support is still foreign to schools in the former East Bloc, where student cootie is at a minimum.

East European universities are "stove pipes," said Runen Rashchov, an AUBG senior from Plovdiv in eastern Bulgaria. "I mean, you stay with the same group of people who enter your specialty and come out with you, and you only really see them when you study together before exams."

Elena Popodorova, 40, a member of the Bulgarian Parliament and of the AUBG board, recalled that after passing her

By James C. McKinley Jr.
New York Times Service

secretary of state for African affairs, who has been shuttling between the two capitals, U.S. officials said.

NAIROBI — Eight years after they jointly won a civil war against a communist dictator, the leaders of Ethiopia and Eritrea seem to be on the verge of attacking each other over a triangle of rocky land along their shared border.

Over the weekend each government massed thousands of troops on each side of the disputed territory. Officials from the two countries have attacked each other in increasingly harsh rhetoric, each accusing the other of invading a 250-square-mile (650-square-kilometer) zone around Badme known as the Yigra Triangle.

The crisis has worsened despite the efforts of Susan Rice, U.S. assistant sec-

retary of state for African affairs, who has been shuttling between the two capitals, U.S. officials said.

"Both of these countries are close friends of the United States," the State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said in Washington. "We have urged both governments to practice restraint."

But in a statement Wednesday, the Ethiopian foreign minister, Seyoum Mesfin, said his country was running out of patience and would take "necessary measures" unless Eritrea immediately withdrew its troops, Eritrea denies that its forces are on Ethiopian soil.

"In case we go into full-scale conflict due to Eritrea's failure to heed Ethiopia's call for unconditional withdrawal of its troops," Mr. Seyoum said,



have remained staunch allies. Eritrean rebels played a pivotal role to the alliance of Ethiopian rebel groups that ousted the Marxist dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in May 1991.

The crisis erupted last week, when Ethiopia accused Eritrea of invading its territory. The countries have disagreed

about their border since Eritrea gained independence from Ethiopia in 1993 but

take up defensive positions.

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EUROPE

At Wrong Moment, Sinn Fein Sent a Troubling Image to VotersBy Richard L. Berke
*New York Times Service***BELFAST** — It is every political campaign's worst fear: everything at risk with one searing image.

It happened to President George Bush when he tapped into voters' fears that he was out of touch by checking his watch three times during a debate with Bill Clinton. It happened to Michael Dukakis when he tapped into voters' fears that he was militarily challenged by playing Snoopy in a tank.

Now the curse of the indelible image, the one that crystallizes anxieties and gnaws at voters, has struck Gerry

Adams — at just the moment he seemed to be successfully negotiating Northern Ireland's treacherous shoals from rifle to ballot box, from rebel to high-ranking official.

Mr. Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, and a linchpin of the jittery coalition trying to win a referendum here and in the Irish Republic on Friday on the Northern Ireland peace agreement, made the blunder at a party convention on May 10.

He took to the stage surrounded by strutting IRA guerrillas who had been released from prison to attend the event.

The "yes" campaign, while still ex-

pected to prevail, took a dive in the polls. Suddenly, all the Protestants in Northern Ireland were obsessed about marauding prisoners taking over Northern Ireland and terrorists in black masks holding high government positions.

Mr. Adams's unionist partners were livid — some publicly attacked him — and the accord's opponents gleefully mocked the cocky tableau. They also used it to stoke fears over the agreement's provision for the accelerated release of political prisoners.

One anti-referendum advertisement in newspapers this week painted this picture if the accord is approved: "We got murderers on the street, godfathers

in government and gangsters acting as police."

On Wednesday, just two days before the voting, supporters of the agreement were still struggling to overcome the political damage, hoping that a concert by the wildly popular rock group U2 will have erased the stench.

The gaffe had such serious reverberations because it underscored the tensions in one of the most fragile coalitions in history, consisting of partners who may loathe each other, may not speak outside the negotiations, but who are manacled together by the agreement.

David Trimble, head of the largest unionist party, who backs the agree-

ment, branded the assemblage "a dis-

gusting display."

Officials involved with the campaign for the accord said that was a major reason why U2 scheduled its special appearance on the referendum's behalf here this week. And it explains why Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain flew to the town of Coleraine north of here Wednesday and pledged that prisoners would be kept in jail unless they gave up their criminal activity for good.

In a television interview, Mr. Blair declared, "Who could feel anything but revulsion with prisoners parading themselves about?"

In a rare admission of failure, Mr. Adams, in an interview here, referred to the event as "my mistake."

But British and Irish officials now concede privately that it was a huge miscalculation for them to allow the temporary release of seven prominent IRA prisoners so they could appear at the Sinn Fein convention in Dublin on May 10.

The spectacle of defiant guerrillas who had served sentences for bombings and shootings drawing thunderous applause as they appeared on stage with Mr. Adams infuriated many voters.

While Catholics are widely behind the agreement, Protestants are divided and polls show that the event in Dublin — which has been repeated again and again on television — has been the biggest single factor causing them to turn against the agreement.

"That took quite a few chunks out of the 'yes' campaign," said a senior British government official who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "It shoved a lot of 'don't knows' into the 'no' category. And there's some evidence that even some moderate nationalists were turned off by the obvious triumphalism of the guys. It's the way they were treated — and the way they behaved."

Seeking to allay voters' fears about prisoners taking over the streets, backers of the accord have contended that many prisoners would be eligible for release in a year or two anyway.

Pressing its argument that terrorists of the past can become good citizens of today, the "yes" campaign called a news conference Wednesday at which it produced three former prisoners on the unionist side. In contrast to the swagging inmates at the Sinn Fein conference, these men looked meek, repented — and respectable.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry for what I have done," said James Tate, a carpenter who went to prison in the 1970s for possession of a gun and now is in a Christian support group with other former prisoners, including reformed IRA terrorists.

In Belfast, a city of intrigue, there was immediate speculation that the acute and brash Sinn Fein leader was either deliberately trying to scuttle the agreement or show he was not under the thumb of his Union Jack partners.

But Mr. Adams, in the interview at the heavily guarded Sinn Fein compound here, insisted that he had not intended to turn the event into such a spectacle, and be acknowledged that he had misjudged the situation.

"What I underestimated, I have to say, was the actual emotional effect," he said. "I can understand how some people could be offended bad. But I can

BRIEFLY

Bonn Suspends Waste Shipments**BONN** — The Environment Ministry on Thursday halted until further notice the transport of all combustible nuclear material within Germany and to other countries after revelations of contamination in convoys bound for France.

"There will be no transport of combustible nuclear material within Germany or to reprocessing centers abroad until appropriate measures — for example improved cleaning procedures before transport — provide assurances that such contaminations will not take place again," the ministry said.

On Wednesday, the ministry announced the suspension of waste shipments to Britain and France, following reports of radiation leaks in convoys to France. Earlier this month, the authorities revealed that there had been 11 cases of excess radioactivity on German waste convoys in 1997 out of a total of 55 convoys. (AFP)

Turkey Shuns EU**ANKARA** — Turkey, whose ties with the European Union are badly strained, will not send its foreign minister to a meeting with EU ministers in Brussels on Monday, a government source said Thursday.

"The conditions for this meeting have not attained the necessary maturity," the source said.

Turkey warned Wednesday that Foreign Minister Ismail Cem would not attend the meeting of the Association Council with the European Union if EU member states did not overrule a veto by Greece on financial aid to Turkey. (AFP)

For the Record**THE GREEK AUTHORITY**, who last month confiscated several guns shaped like key rings, have now seized two "balloon pens" capable of firing .22 caliber bullets, Greek newspapers reported Thursday. The Athens News said the police had detained an Albanian man in northern Greece on Wednesday after finding two pen guns and four rounds of ammunition in his car. (Reuters)

understand how others wanted to be offended bad, and seized upon it."

Yet Mr. Adams' remorse only went so far; he reminded reporters that four of the men who appeared with him on stage "were buried for 24 years in a British prison — I was glad they were there. I asked for them to be there."

Publicly, British officials sought to play down the damage caused by the event.

Mo Mowlam, secretary of state for Northern Ireland, would only go as far as to concede that it "increased some of the doubts and discontent in the unionist community."

A Clean Beach?
In the EU, Try Greece and Italy**BRUSSELS** — Vacationers seeking the cleanest bathing waters in the European Union should head for Greek and Italian beaches or Irish and Austrian lakes, according to the European Commission's 1997 bathing water report.

Nineteen out of 20 Greek coastal sites and 18 out of 20 Italian sites were described in the report as having excellent quality bathing waters. At least 17 out of 20 freshwater sites in Ireland and Austria met these standards.

But in general, bathers should head for the sea this summer if they want to find clean water.

With the exception of Ireland and Finland, all countries in the 15-nation bloc recorded better results for sea beaches than for freshwater sites.

Danish beaches scored high marks, followed by the Dutch, Spanish and Irish coasts. Belgium was at the bottom of the list, with only 20.5 percent of its beaches making the high-quality grade, although for the first time 100 percent of coastal sites met minimum standards.

Below that level, the European Union considers water to be too polluted with feces, oil and chemicals to be fit for swimming.

Other laggards included Britain, where more than half the beaches failed to qualify as high quality. France, Germany and Portugal also fared poorly.

Several states failed to meet even minimum standards of cleanliness or monitoring. Finland and Sweden came out worst, with 34 percent and 20.4 percent respectively.

Over 90 percent of European coastal areas respected minimum standards, but 20 years after a bathing-water law came into force only four-fifths of the beaches had high-quality water.

There have been improvements in the cleanliness of Europe's vulnerable lakes and rivers. In 1996, only a third met minimum requirements. By 1997, nearly 80 percent complied.

Ireland and Austria had the most sparkling streams, with Danish, German and Italian inland waters not far behind.

But the commission lashed out at Portugal and Greece, where freshwater quality has deteriorated to the point where more than half the inland sites are breaking the law.

Spain, the Netherlands, Sweden and France also had violations.

ASIA/PACIFIC

India Turns Down Heat In Post-Test War of Words**Moratorium on Nuclear Blasts Announced**By Kenneth J. Cooper
Washington Post Service

attack the part of the territory under Pakistan's control.

In more diplomatic language than Mr. Vajpayee used Wednesday after he visited the nuclear testing site, Mr. Mishra repeated an offer to resume bilateral talks with Pakistan, which broke off last year over the Kashmir issue. He said that Mr. Vajpayee's condescending statement that the bilateral talks could continue if Pakistan approached India first, only meant that India awaits Pakistan's response to an unspecified proposal that a previous coalition government made in January.

Mr. Mishra also sought to ease tensions with China, which has criticized the nuclear tests and charged India with occupying Chinese territory in India's far northeast. Pakistan's top diplomat returned Wednesday from Beijing, where he sought security guarantees from China, according to Asian diplomats. "We want to have very good relations with China," Mr. Mishra said.

Indian analysts have consistently described the nation's larger neighbor as more of a security threat than the smaller Pakistan, which India has defeated in three wars since 1947. The testing may have fulfilled part of India's yearning for more international respect as the second most populous country in the world. China's comments were its first ever about India's nuclear program, according to Jasjit Singh, director of the Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses in New Delhi.

Concerning the United States, Mr. Mishra characterized as "regrettable" heated exchanges that included the State Department accusing India of duping American officials about its nuclear testing plans and condemning Mr. Advani for his remarks about Pakistan. India had responded by charging State Department officials with using undiplomatic language.

"We hope that is behind us" and "more normal interaction would be possible from now on," Mr. Mishra said.

■ Afghan Envoy Condemns Tests

Afghanistan's Taliban government on Thursday denounced India's nuclear tests



Indian soldiers standing guard on shattered ground at the Pokaran nuclear test site. Meanwhile, a militant Hindu group vowed to celebrate the blasts by spraying dust from the test zone around the country.

as a threat to the Islamic world, Reuters reported from Islamabad, Pakistan.

"We totally condemn the Indian nuclear tests," the ambassador to Pakistan, Abdul Hakeem Mujahid, said in Islamabad in the first Afghan reaction to the blasts.

The Taliban government, which controls more than two-thirds of Afghanistan, is recognized only by Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

"We consider it an action not only against Pakistan but against the whole Islamic world," he said.

Mr. Mujahid said he wondered why

BRIEFLY

Bury Marcos Past, Estrada Urges**MANILA** — President-elect Joseph Estrada announced Thursday that he would allow the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos to be buried in Manila's Heroes Cemetery because it was time to entomb the past.

"If we can forgive the Japanese who raped many of our women, why can't we forgive President Marcos for all his sins, if ever there are any?" Mr. Estrada said.

Mr. Marcos's remains are kept in an air-conditioned, glass crypt in his hometown of Batang, north of Manila.

Mr. Marcos's successor, former President Corazon Aquino, who blamed him for the murder of her husband, Benigno Aquino, refused to allow Mr. Marcos to be buried in Heroes Cemetery. (Reuters)

Beijing Detains Rights Activist**BEIJING** — A leading democracy advocate who recently helped set up a human rights monitoring group was detained for 24 hours, and his fax machine, papers and letters and other items were confiscated.

Qin Yongmin, a 45-year-old resident of Wuhan in central China, said Thursday that public security agents arrested him at 2 A.M. Wednesday. He said two colleagues were also held overnight. (NYT)

Rockets Hit Kabul**KABUL** — The Afghan capital came under rocket attack Thursday, but there were no immediate reports of casualties, residents said.

Three Soviet-made "Uragan" rockets, which have an effective range of about 70 kilometers (45 miles), landed in northeast Kabul, they said. One rocket landed inside the airport perimeter, but did not damage the runway. (Reuters)

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Spain, the Netherlands, Sweden and France also had violations.

BRIEFLY
Bonn Suspends
Waste Shipments

The Federal Environment Ministry has suspended the import of radioactive wastes from France and Switzerland and is to offer the same treatment to other countries. The decision will be on June 1. France and Switzerland are to be given a grace period of 10 days to submit a proposal to the ministry. France has already suspended imports of radioactive wastes from the United States and Switzerland. The ministry has also suspended imports of radioactive wastes from the United States, Canada, and Sweden. The ministry has also suspended imports of radioactive wastes from the United States, Canada, and Sweden. The ministry has also suspended imports of radioactive wastes from the United States, Canada, and Sweden.

Turkey Shuns
Turkey's foreign minister has said that Turkey will not be part of the European Union's enlargement process. The minister has also said that Turkey will not be part of the European Union's enlargement process.

For the Record

The European Commission has approved a new law that will allow the European Union to impose sanctions on countries that do not respect human rights. The law will also allow the European Union to impose sanctions on countries that do not respect human rights.

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Chinese Campaign Money

The story of the White House and its Chinese campaign money will not die, for the simple reason that there is too much evidence of wrongdoing to be suppressed or ignored. The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, is right, beyond argument, to demand a full investigation of the export of sensitive technology to China at a time when both the Chinese government and an American technology company are pouring money into Democratic accounts. But we differ with Mr. Gingrich when he says that the issue "has nothing to do with campaign finance" and is solely about national security.

Based on evidence already public, the security aspects of this mess cannot be separated from fund-raising conducted by President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore. Mr. Gingrich is also wrong when he says that a House select committee is the best place for such an inquiry. The best choice remains an independent counsel who would take over the investigation of the Democrats' connection to Chinese money that is already under way at the Justice Department.

It is, admittedly, a complicated situation that has to be examined in sections. One section has to do with President Clinton's decision to overrule the State Department and liberalize the rules under which American companies like Loral Space & Communications could work with China on launching communications satellites.

This policy change benefiting Loral came as its chief executive, Bernard Schwartz, was giving huge donations to various Democratic campaign committees — \$632,000 in advance of the 1996 elections, making him the single largest donor to the Democrats — and after he went to China with then-Commerce Secretary Ron Brown. It has now been determined by federal investigators that the FBI and Senator Fred Thompson were right in warning that the Chinese government was sneaking money to the Democrats.

The key question is whether there were violations of the laws that make it illegal to exchange policy decisions for contributions. Attorney General Janet Reno wasted a year before she unleashed a compact Justice Department team this question. In the last few months, that team has produced much of what we now know. But the latest information is so serious that Ms. Reno's best service

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

A Tobacco Bill

Will the Seante majority leader, Trent Lott, force a tobacco bill past the resisters in his own party this week, or will he allow the matter to be put off until after next week's Memorial Day recess, meaning until June?

The question is of more than academic interest. The longer the Senate takes to finish the bill, the longer it will apparently be before the House begins to get its fragmented act together. But there are oot that many legislative days left in this Congress. The members will work through June, take a week off in July for the Independence Day holiday, take their usual August vacation, return after Labor Day and adjourn, they hope, after the first full week in October.

Delay thus begins to matter, the more so because the tobacco bill is oot alone. The House, for example, will only begin work on campaign finance reform this week; it is scheduled to finish after the recess. It has only begun work on the budget as well; the Budget Committee will report out a resolution this week, but there remains the floor — and conference — for that as well.

The appropriations process awaits the budget resolution. It was not even entirely clear that the two houses would complete work on the highway bill before going home — oot, in their likely form, all parts of that bill will deserve to be enacted.

Neither house has dealt with the tobacco issue in the organized fashion that the subject warrants. The lack of an orderly process was evident when the Senate took up the bill this week. The Commerce Committee, to which Mr. Lott had assigned the task of writing the bill, included a section meant to compensate tobacco farmers and their communities for the damage they will likely suffer if the measure is successful in reducing smoking.

— THE WASHINGTON POST

Getting Down to Business With the Cool Kiriienko

By Jim Hoagland

MOSCOW — Sergei Kiriienko is a man you can do business with. In fact, he wishes you would. And soon.

Mr. Kiriienko is the new, already embattled prime minister of Russia. In office a month, he is fighting off attacks on the ruble, trying to attract new foreign investment (yours is welcome) and declaring war on waste, fraud and abuse in the Russian budget.

For Mr. Kiriienko, the chief business of Russia is business, not big-power geopolitics or ideology. He fits the famous formula that Margaret Thatcher used to express early confidence in Mikhail Gorbachev far better than the former Soviet president ever did. Unlike any previous top leader here, Mr. Kiriienko has actually experienced the ups and downs of working in the free market as a banker and an oil company executive.

On Wednesday, Mr. Kiriienko quickly took control of the first interview he has given a foreign journalist since being confirmed in office by a hostile Duma to reassure nervous investors, foreign and domestic, about the state of the Russian economy and the firmness of spine of his new government.

He promised to indemnify or otherwise protect foreign shareholders adversely affected by a new Duma law

reducing their holdings in Russian utilities. He ruled out a devaluation of the Russian ruble, which came under attack this week and had to be defended by the central bank. And he emphasized throughout the 30-minute conversation that his young, reform-minded government was here to stay, despite widespread doubt in Moscow that this 35-year-old technocrat will last out the year under the mercurial Boris Yeltsin.

"This government does have the will to secure its own interests," Mr. Kiriienko said in his precise, cool way. "It is important that no one doubt this government's seriousness" and determination to undo the budgetary tangles that did in his predecessor, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who was summarily fired by Mr. Yeltsin in late March.

Physically, the stolid, gray Chernomyrdin was the central casting version of a Soviet apparatchik. When I interviewed him a year ago at the Russian White House, we met in the vast meeting room where the prime minister chairs the Russian cabinet. Mr. Chernomyrdin spent our talk hurling verbal thunderbolts at NATO's expansion and speaking unpersuasively about economic reform.

Mr. Kiriienko comes from a different era and mind-set. Seated in his office overlooking the Moscow River, he spoke with a detailed and specific command of the day's interest and currency rates, and praised the "the classical measures" the central bank took in raising short-term interest rates sharply to steady the markets, which calmed Wednesday.

Mr. Yeltsin reached far across generations, political and temperamental divides to elevate Mr. Kiriienko from his post as energy minister, where he had been less than a year. Mr. Kiriienko, who went from university to private enterprise in the Volga River city of Nizhni Novgorod, added to the cabinet new faces who also have practical experience in Russia's fragile free-market economy in the provinces.

Those appointments, and my conversation with Mr. Kiriienko, suggest that President Yeltsin at some point a few months ago recognized that the Russian economy had reached a dead end and needed a dramatic new start. It is said in Moscow that he was pointed toward Mr. Kiriienko by former Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar and Anatoli Chubais, the abrasive ex-privatization chief who took the opportunity of the April change to leave the government. With refreshing candor, Mr. Kiriienko acknowledged that the abruptness of his appointment and his battles with the Communist-dominated Duma had contributed to the economic turbulence that has hit Russia. Equally damaging, he said, was "the new wave of the Asian crisis, which keeps investors cautious."

A quarter-smile plays at the corner of his mouth as he speaks. His is a well-ordered mind dealing with a chaotic situation. Mr. Kiriienko gives the impression of knowing exactly what his last sentence will say when he begins a paragraph.

Mr. Kiriienko hopes to carve out the same privileged relationship with Vice President Al Gore that Mr. Chernomyrdin enjoyed. "I spoke to Vice President Gore on the telephone this week and we began to make plans to meet in Moscow this summer," Mr. Kiriienko said.

Although he is satirized here as a boy scout dropped deep into a threatening jungle with little training, Mr. Kiriienko's youth and inexperience are seen as assets by some serious students of Russia. "There is some experience that is worth having," says a U.S. official delighted to deal with Mr. Kiriienko after making a career of dealing with people formed in the Soviet era.

The Washington Post

War or Peace in Colombia: U.S. Can Make the Difference

By Bernard Aronson

WASHINGTON — The United States soon will

make a fateful decision about Colombia. We Americans will either help launch an international peace process that could end that country's 30-year guerrilla war — a war that last year claimed more than 6,000 lives. Or we will get deeply involved in prosecuting that war and risk allying ourselves with paramilitary forces that recently massacred 21 civilians, including a 4-year-old, in a remote village in guerrilla-controlled territory.

The stakes for the hemisphere are high. Colombia supplies 80 percent of the world's cocaine. It is also the only country in Latin America whose guerrilla armies are growing stronger. They now control more than one-third of the nation. As the war expands, it risks spilling across the border into Venezuela, the No. 1 oil supplier to the United States.

Nevertheless, there are reasons for optimism. For the first time, a national consensus unites Colombian society in support of a negotiated settlement. In recent weeks, also, leaders of the largest

guerrilla army have sent messages to Washington that they support a negotiated settlement.

The guerrillas offer, as part of an overall political settlement, to end all ties to drug trafficking and to cooperate in promoting alternative economic development for the peasants who grow coca leaf and poppy in the regions under guerrilla control.

Moreover, the candidate positioned to win Colombia's presidency in the May 31 election is Andres Pastrana, who four years ago blew the whistle on drug cartel campaign contributions to the current president, Ernesto Samper. Mr. Pastrana narrowly lost to Mr. Samper in that election.

Mr. Pastrana is a handpicked candidate, he will wield the moral and political authority necessary to garner international backing for a peace process and to negotiate credibly with the guerrillas.

The army may need some short-term assistance following recent guerrilla victories. But the Colombian armed forces have not been able to defeat the guerrillas over three decades under eight different governments, and they will not defeat them in the foreseeable future at any acceptable political and moral cost, regardless of U.S. assistance.

The war is being waged, also, by irregular paramilitary forces — some led by drug traffickers and smugglers — which have massacred civilians accused of

being guerrilla sympathizers. Allying with them would recall the worst days of El Salvador.

The war has fostered instability, violence and a weak government with little or no authority over much of the countryside.

That is the sea in which the drug traffickers swim. Widening the war will not reduce drug trafficking. Ending the war through negotiations would allow Colombians for the first time to isolate the drug cartels and their corrupt political allies.

The guerrillas began as committed Marxist-Leninists and currently finance their operations through kidnappings, extortion of oil pipeline companies and protection money from drug traffickers. No strategy for peace in Colombia should romanticize them. But before we start down the slippery slope of counter-insurgency, the guerrillas' offer to cooperate in ending coca leaf production in their zones should be tested seriously.

As we saw in El Salvador, Guatemala and now, perhaps, in Northern Ireland, there comes a time in the life of nations racked by bloody civil conflicts when the combatants grow weary of warfare, the larger society is pressing for peace, new political leaders emerge and the chance to gain concrete reforms through negotiation brings all sides to the bargaining table. Such a moment may have come to Colombia.

A successful peace process

will require the active involvement of the UN, including eventually, the deployment of peacekeepers. It also will require the participation of Latin American and European nations that have influence with the parties, as well as substantial resources from the development banks and donor nations to help substitute legal crops for coca, to finance reform of Colombian institutions and to restrain former combatants. In the end, peace will depend foremost on Colombians. But now, as in the past, U.S. leadership will be indispensable.

The writer was assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs from June 1989 to July 1993. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

A Practical New Generation Works to Get Africa Going

By Flora Lewis

WINDHOEK, Namibia — The meeting's slogan was "African renaissance." But Africa is experiencing more of an awakening, a sense of urgent need to join the producing world, and is accepting the fact that major efforts must come from Africans themselves.

Self-promotion is to be expected at a gathering of political and business leaders such as the just-concluded World Economic Forum's 1998 Southern Africa Economic Summit. But a new air of optimism and a candor about past failings gave substance to the hopes.

Hassan Ba, a 32-year-old Senegalese who heads a Geneva-based organization called Synergies Africa, embodies the spirit of change.

"A new decolonization has just begun," he said. "The first was artificial, but four phenomena are bringing new circum-

stances." He lists the major elements of transformation as the spread of education; urbanization, which opens societies; emigration and travel, and modern communications. Even remote villages now often have access to television and radio.

"This is producing a new generation with fewer complexes toward the West, one that didn't live under colonialism and is ready to be self-critical, more mature," he said.

In his view, the main catalysts for change have been the shift of regimes in South Africa and the end of the Cold War.

With the Cold War's end came a disengagement of the West from Africa, which Mr. Ba said was "good for us" — the rising generation — if not for the regimes that lived by playing off the superpowers.

"Nothing has been won yet," Mr. Ba said. "The key is

Still, more and more voices are speaking out in Africa, and it is now definitely out of fashion to attack democracy and the free market.

Botswana's president, Festus Mogae, expresses a conviction that can make a profound difference if it becomes more widely accepted. He considers democracy and free speech a modern version of the tribal tradition of consultation — therefore out some also Western value but a truly indigenous one, part of the cultural heritage.

Botswana has long been the exception to the steady degradation and misgovernance of postcolonial Africa.

Namibia, the last colony to gain independence, has been learning from other's examples — or mistakes, said Prime Minister Hage Geingob.

He acknowledged that during the long guerrilla war against South Africa, the dominant rebel group, SWAPO, was Communist-aided and inspired.

But the reality of struggle is different from the reality of governance," he said. "We understand that."

In private, at least, there is general distress that the new leader of Coorgo, Laurent Kabila, has not grasped the point — not only because Congo remains disaster-land but because

his failings tend to reflect on other nations at a time when they are seeking a better image to attract investment.

That is a persistent African complaint: that the rest of the world lumps its varied countries together and fails to distinguish the better performers.

On that score the summit meeting's Africa Competitive-ness Report — which ranked 23 countries on their prospects and growth — was applauded, even if it provoked complaints, particularly from South Africa, that it was unfair and subjective on some issues. Mauritius, Tunisia, Botswana and Namibia were the top four. South Africa did not fare well, being rated seventh, but by their nature the rankings spur competition.

At the same time, there is mounting emphasis on the need for regional cooperation to make better use of development projects and to have more bargaining power. There does seem to be a fair consensus now on what African countries need to do. The problem, and it is colossal, is how.

The new generation is starting to push hard. Said Prime Minister Geingob: "We want to move Africa from a continent of war and turmoil to a continent of people who are tired of suffering and ready to work."

Flora Lewis

Nike Still Has Long Strides to Make

By Bob Herbert

NEW YORK — Let's not be

too quick to canonize

Nike.

Philip Knight, Nike's multi-billionaire chairman and chief executive, managed to generate a lot of positive press last week when he announced that independent organizations would be allowed to inspect the overseas factories that make his company's products, that he would toughen the health and safety standards in the factories and that he would crack down on the use of child labor.

There is both merit and a lot of smoke in Mr. Knight's initiative.

The admission into the plants of truly independent observers from local nongovernmental organizations would be a great advance.

The proposed improvements in health and safety standards, which would bring them in line with U.S. standards, are also important. Footwear factories are equipped with heavy machinery that can cause serious injury, and much of the raw material used in the factories is toxic.

Mr. Knight's child labor initiative is another matter. It is a smoke screen. Child labor has not been a big problem with Nike, and Philip Knight knows that better than anyone. But public relations is public relations. So he announces that he is not going to let the factories hire

wages, forced overtime and arbitrary abuse."

You bet. And the company's

current strategy is to reshape its public image while doing as little as possible for the workers.

Does anyone think it was an accident that Nike set up shop in human rights sinkholes, where labor organizing was viewed as a criminal activity and deeply impoverished workers were willing, even eager, to take their places on assembly lines and work for next to nothing?

The abuses continue, even as Mr. Knight spends untold millions trying to show what a good guy he is. Two nights ago I phooed to a woman in Vietnam named Lap Nguyen. She was called to my attention by Thuyen Nguyen (no relation), who runs Vietnam Labor Watch, an outfit that keeps a sharp eye on Nike.

Lap Nguyen worked in a factory that made Nikes. She made the mistake of speaking to American television reporters about corporal punishment and other problems on the job. Despite an excellent employment history, she found herself demoted from team leader on an assembly line to toilet cleaner — a task she said, that made her feel "ashamed." Last month she was forced to resign.

Nike has still got a long way to go.

The New York Times

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Lull in the War

NEW YORK — There is a move

in the game of checkers when the last piece on the losing side is placed in a corner and can be moved to and fro but cannot get out and cannot be taken. Such is the position of the Spanish fleet.

Although the American ships are all kings, and can move in any direction, they seem unable to drive the Spaniards out of their corner and end the game. This difficulty has caused a lull in war news, so that a stranger arriving in New York to-day [May 21] would never know that a state of war existed.

1923: Italy's 'Miracle'

ROME — "Signor Mussolini is

not a dictator. He is a trustee who has assumed responsibility for Italy's future, and who will relinquish power as soon as the country is restored to its former

diligence and soundness," de-

In Lost Ostia, on the Trail of 2,000 Years of History

By Wilborn Hampton
New York Times Service

OSTIA, Italy — Two millennia ago, this was one of the most important cities in the world, a bustling port that fed and supplied Rome. Today, its ruins offer armchair archaeologists a rare opportunity to clamber over 2,000 years of history.

Ostia Antica, so named to differentiate it from the beach at Ostia Lido a few kilometers away, stands at what was once the mouth of the Tiber, about 25 kilometers (15 miles) from Rome. The excavations, covering about 40 hectares (100 acres) and stretching for more than a mile toward the Tyrrhenian Sea, are probably the best preserved and most complete Roman ruins outside Pompeii. They reveal the remains of a wealthy and vibrant metropolis.

But it was not always so. Until this century, Ostia was mostly a lost city. It had its formal beginnings in the middle of the fourth century B.C. as a military base. It was the first colony of republican Rome and became the home port for the Roman fleet. At Ostia, reinforcements from Carthage landed to help Rome in its battle against Pyrrhus in 275 B.C., and from Ostia ships sailed with supplies for the Roman Army fighting Hannibal in Spain during the Second Punic War roughly half a century later.

But with the rise of imperial Rome, Ostia was transformed from a naval base and port into a thriving mercantile center that brought prosperity to its citizens and financed its growth as a cosmopolitan city.

It was Julius Caesar who first had the idea to expand Ostia, already becoming overwhelmed by ship traffic. But not until the reign of Claudio nearly 100 years later was the project undertaken and a new basin dredged in an area now occupied by Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport at Fiumicino.

Under the Caesars, money and investment poured into Ostia. A succession of emperors continued the building boom. Augustus was one of the first, contributing an amphitheater that is still a marvel today. Claudio donated a fire department and built luxurious barracks for the firemen. Nero, Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian and Septimius Severus added warehouses, baths, forums and temples.

The city grew rapidly. Marble palaces decorated with frescoes and elaborate mosaics lined the streets, their remains attesting to the sudden wealth it enjoyed.

Four- and five-story apartment houses, residential skyscrapers by Roman standards, went up. Shops, bars, restaurants and markets opened. A stock exchange was established and labor unions were formed. A capitol and curia were built.

Today the city, which has been under excavation for most of the last century, looks the way ruins should: broken columns strewn about, chipped statuary standing on pedestals worn smooth by time, cracked sarcophagi lining the sides of stone roads that were first laid and traveled centuries ago.

Visiting the Ruins

The ruins are entered from outside the old city walls, along a stretch of the Via Ostiense, the main road that linked the city to Rome. Nearby, on the Via delle Tombe are the remains of several burial vaults, niches carved in walls around a sort of courtyard to contain cinerary urns. This necropolis is remarkably similar to modern-day mausoleums.

Proceeding into the city proper, the visitor quickly finds that a map or guidebook explaining some of the ruins is essential. Unfortunately, these are not available at the entrance to the excavations. A first-time visitor would be well advised to head straight along the Decumanus Maximus, a boulevard wide enough for two chariots to pass that was Ostia's main drag, to the site's bookshop.

It is near the center of the excavations, at the side of a small museum, where some of the more valuable and delicate discoveries are now housed. Getting there means making a detour

past some ruins you will eventually want to double back to see.

One good book is "Ancient Ostia," which costs about 14,000 lira (\$8). Photographs of the ruins with overlays show what buildings looked like in Roman times. It also suggests some walking itineraries to see the major sites.

One of those is the city amphitheater, a majestic edifice that is also the only ruin that was extensively rebuilt, having been reconstructed in 1940 using its original mica and brick.

Another of Ostia's most impressive ruins, and one of its mysteries, lies just behind the theater. Called the Forum of the Corporations, it features a double colonnaded walkway that wraps around three sides of the square behind the theater and contains dozens of small rooms whose floors are covered with some of the best preserved mosaics in the city.

One site that seems to be a favorite for tourists, and which has been unearthed almost intact, is a wine bar on the Via di Diana, named for an apartment house that takes up most of the block in which a statue of the goddess was found. Known as the Thermopolium, it opened along the street so that passersby could stop and have a glass of Frascati or whatever the special of the day might be.

Venture off the Decumanus Maximus into smaller side streets, and surprises await at almost every turn: Suddenly there will be a statue or a carved

face overgrown with ivy, a little room with its mosaic floor almost intact, a wall with a completely preserved painting like the laurel-crowned charioteer with two horses that adorns one apartment house. Or perhaps a stray cat popping up from a sarcophagus.

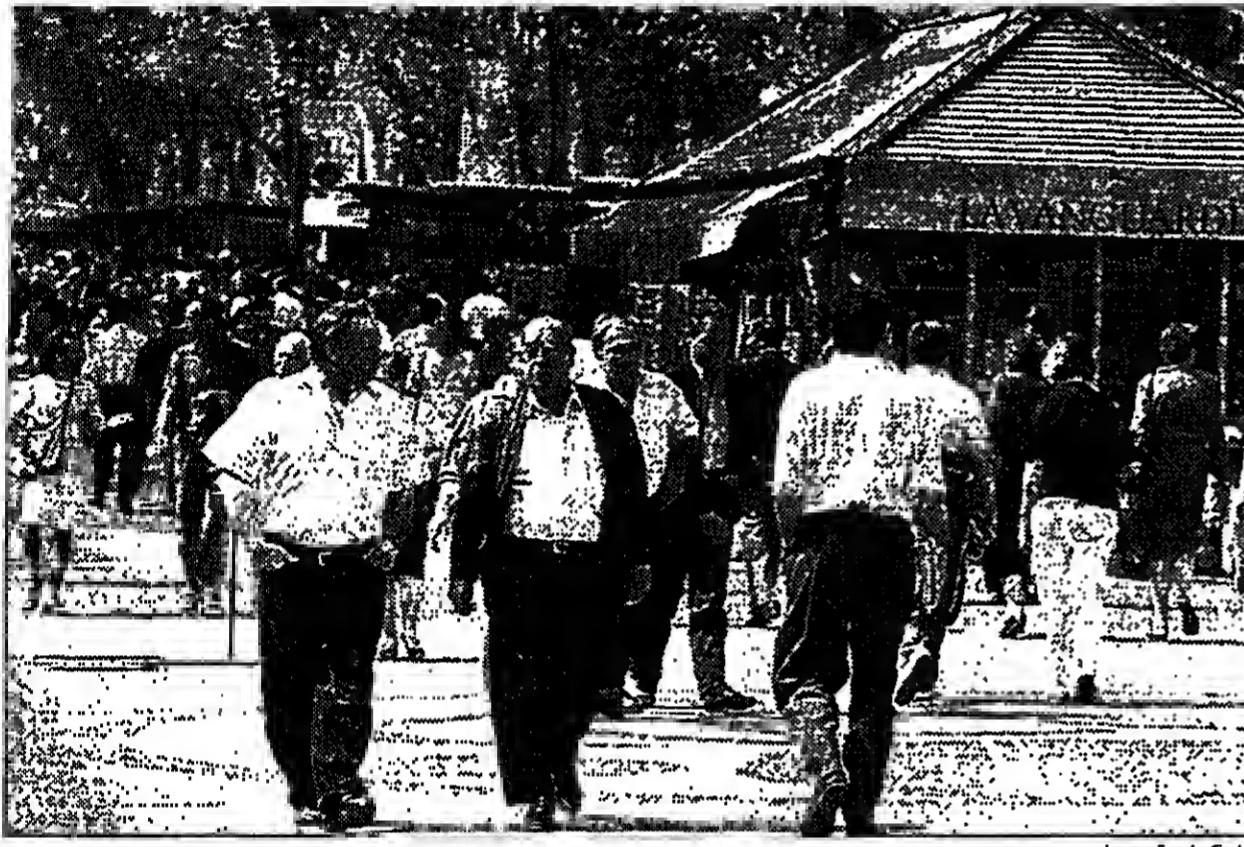
On almost every side street are shops complete with display cases and check-out counters. In the Via dei Molini, or Street of the Mills, warehouses (or *horrea*) with giant urns lie still half-buried in the earth where grain and dry goods were stored awaiting shipment on to Rome. There is a discursive laundry, a butcher shop and a *fishmonger* that still has the fish tanks and a marble table where they were cleaned.

Almost every neighborhood had its own temple, and many still have fragments of original mosaics and statues. Mithraism was clearly the popular religion as attested by the numerous mithraea discovered throughout the city.

Other temples have been unearthed as well, including one to Hercules from the first century B.C., which yielded an excellent statue of the hero that is now in the Ostia museum. There are also temples to Venus and Mars and, of course, to Augustus. There is a fourth-century Christian basilica and even a synagogue with giant columns that dates from the first century A.D.

It was all too good to last, of course. After more than eight centuries of life, growing from a colonial outpost to naval base to mercantile center, Ostia began to decline in A.D. 314 when Constantine awarded the lucrative port rights by which it thrived to Portus a few kilometers to the north. Within 50 years, the city's population had diminished by half and its magnificent palaces, apartments, baths, temples and shops were beginning to crumble through neglect.

In another 200 years Ostia was a ghost town, covered by marshy swamp and infested by malaria. Although there were several half-hearted attempts to revive the city over the centuries, Ostia remained only a name in history books until Pope Pius IX ordered some tentative exploration of the area about 100 years ago. In 1909, the Italian government ordered the first systematic archaeological excavations, and to this day, with every unearthed stone, they add to our understanding of a city that once stood next to Rome in grandeur.



On Las Ramblas, a famed thoroughfare, pedestrians can watch performance artists and portrait painters.

Strolling Through Barcelona

Spain's Capital of Design Houses the Old and New

By Steven Greenhouse
New York Times Service

BARCELONA — Barcelona is a walker's paradise, especially in spring. It has old and new, sea and mountain, postmodern and primitive.

To saunter through its Gothic Quarter, along the dark, narrow streets and past the ancient artisans' shops, is to be transported back to the Middle Ages. Walk up Passeig de Gracia, past the chic boutiques and the daring, whimsical buildings by Antoni Gaudi, Barcelona's favorite architectural son, and it is easy to appreciate why this city is known as Spain's capital of design. And, of course, there is Las Ramblas, the city's most famous thoroughfare, where people gawk for hours at performance artists, portrait painters, parrots on sale and the parade of pedestrians.

This city spruced itself up considerably for the 1992 Summer Olympic Games, a face-lift that is still paying off. Dozens of old factories and seedy restaurants that blocked access to the waterfront were torn down, creating a Mediterranean beach marvellous for strolling and sunbathing. Near the Old Port are a new aquarium and an Imax theater, excellent diversions for those with children in tow.

After 40 years in which Franco repressed Barcelona, the Catalan language and the culture of the region, this proud city has striven to make Catalan culture flourish again. Scores of townspeople dance the traditional Sardana on Sunday mornings in front of the 14th-century cathedral. In 1995, the city opened the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art, a glistening white sun-drenched building designed by Richard Meier, an American. The government has also put together a delightful walking tour, the Ruta de Modernisme, to showcase Gaudi and other turn-of-the-century architects in the Modernist school who used themes from myth and nature.

THINGS TO SEE AND HEAR The Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art is staging an exhibition through June 21 of the works of a fast-rising Majorcan artist, Miquel Barcelo. His kinetic canvases cover a vast range of subjects: Saharan landscapes, sumptuous feasts, African flood victims, portraits of friends and animal carcasses.

Many bold-colored paintings and sculptures by Joan Miro, the Catalan artist, are on display at the Miro Foundation, a museum on Montjuic overlooking Barcelona. "Private Fictions,"

an exhibit of 100 photographs by Robert Doisneau, Man Ray, Dora Maar and others, runs through August.

After years of renovation, the National Museum of Catalan Art recently reopened. The museum, in Montjuic Park, has a spectacular collection of 12th- and 13th-century frescoes and altarpieces moved from remote churches in the Pyrenees, and through May 31 is exhibiting works by Francisco de Gaudi, the 17th-century painter.

Gaudi lovers should not miss Guell Park, on Calle Olot, an unfinished work that he designed to be a model community. It has a brilliantly colored, serpentine mosaic bench, an outdoor hall of stately columns and two guardhouses inspired by Hansel and Gretel. One of

Barcelona's unusual attractions is its dancing fountains bathed in lush colored lights at the base of Montjuic, near the Placa Espanya. The fountains play Thursday to Sunday from 10 to 11:30 P.M., June 23 to Sept. 24.

A TASTE OF TAPAS For a spectacular view of the Mediterranean and equally impressive seafood, Cal Pino is the place to go. Situated in Barceloneta, an up-and-coming neighborhood originally built for fisherman's families, this restaurant, at 124 Balmoral, has excellent paella, sea bass (*lubina*) and *esquedada*, a seafood salad full of olive oil and cod. Dinner for two costs about \$65, with wine.

Widely considered one of the best tapas bars in a city famous for tapas, Cal Pep, 8 Placa de les Olles, has seafood galore. At night, there are often lines for the hustling marble bar, but it is worth the wait. Try the succulent baby squid, the grilled shrimp, the mussels and the spinach with garbanzo beans and garlic. Dinner for two: \$60, with wine.

Budget-minded tourists might try Agut, 16 Gignac, with an \$8.50 lunch menu. Dinner for two is \$40, with wine. The \$6.50 lunch menu is a stunning bargain at El Convent, in a converted medieval convent, at 3 Jerusalem, just behind the colorful Boqueria food market. One recent lunch time, appetizers included lentil salad, baby squid salad and asparagus with garlic mousse.

For a sense of what Barcelona was like at the turn of the century, when it was awash with intellectual ferment and a passion for design, try a romantic dinner at the Quatre Gats, 3 Montsoriu, a tavern that opened in 1897. Picasso designed its first menu. Unfortunately, the food is not as impressive as the ambiance. Dinner for two: \$60, with wine.

The pass provides admission to 10 Modernist buildings, including Casa

Batilo, 43 Passeig de Gracia, a Gaudi townhouse that looks like a fairytale structure, and Casa Mila, 92 Passeig de Gracia, a Gaudi apartment building famous for its undulating walls resembling seaside cliffs, and phantom-shaped air ducts and chimneys. It also includes admission to the Church of the Sagrada Familia, at 401 Mallorca, the vast still-unfinished church that Gaudi worked on for 43 years before his death in 1926. He is buried in the crypt.

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Dining

Asparagus Addict Attains Nirvana

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — I'll be honest from the start. I am an asparagus addict. From the first sighting of those slender spears during the doldrums of February until their traditional disappearance from the French market on the feast of St. Jean in mid-June, I could savor their dense, mineral-rich flavor morning, noon and night.

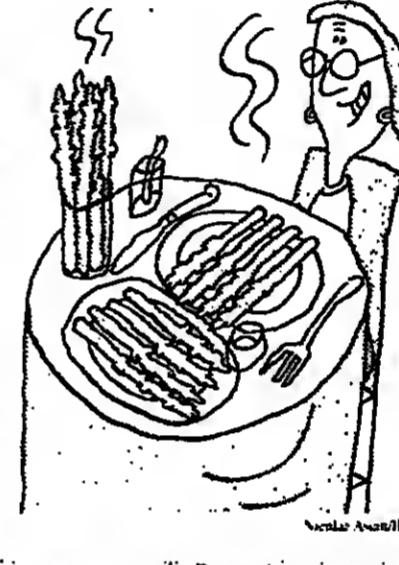
So when I discovered that the Michelin two-star chef Michel Rostang was offering an all-asparagus menu, I beat a path to the door of his elegant restaurant in the 17th arrondissement. I admit to falling out of love with Rostang some years back after a few meals that seemed to reflect a man stuck in gastronomic mud and on a road to nowhere.

He has awakened, big time, now a passionate chef whose table reflects a curious mind and an intensely intellectual approach to food. The asparagus meal was full of surprises, void of clichés, a love poem to that admirable vegetable.

I was mildly disappointed that nowhere in the meal did asparagus play the star, but by the end of the meal realized the wisdom of assigning it a supporting role in a number of dishes.

The first course, *soupe claire d'asperges vertes de Provence* was an eye opener. With Asian overtones, this complex blend of asparagus, coriander, faintly pungent *epine-vinette*, or high-bush cranberries, and cubes of fresh tuna in a clear broth was a perfect tonic. No surprise to know that asparagus were once revered for their health giving properties and used as medicine.

The star of the evening was a simple



soft-cooked egg nestled in a tulip of crisp phyllo, topped with a generous spoonful of Sevruga caviar. Flanked by pan-seared violet-tipped asparagus from the farms of Jean-Charles Orso in the hills of Cannes, the soothing dish was offset by a rich, heavily reduced, almost caramelized sauce of sweet sherry.

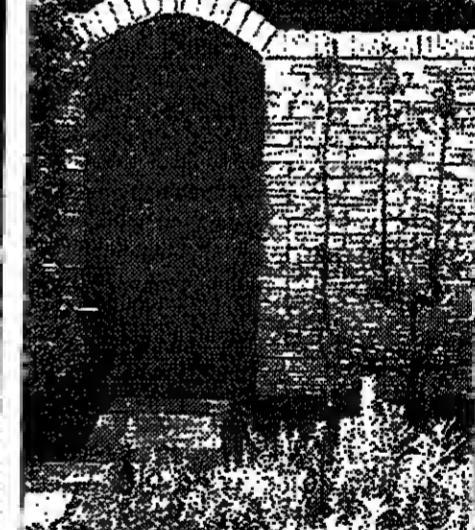
Off the special menu, diners can also savor their palates with roasted green asparagus with spiced crabmeat in a reduced crustacean sauce; rich nuggets of lobster meat paired with asparagus and baby violet artichokes in a delicate anchovy sauce, and farm-fresh guinea hen with an Italian Arborio rice risotto with asparagus butter.

THE wine list offered a fine discovery, a finely flinty white 1995 Coteaux d'Aix en Provence, from Domaine Hauvette, where Dominique Hauvette crafts a well-made organic wine on the plains of St. Remy de Provence.

Michel Rostang, 20 Rue Rennequin, Paris 17; tel: 01-47-63-40-77; fax: 01-47-63-82-75. Closed Saturday lunch, Sunday and three weeks in August. All major credit cards. 325-franc lunch menu; 745-franc asparagus menu. A la carte, 600 to 800 francs, including service but not wine.



Two scenes of Paris's Art du Jardin, France's grandest horticultural fair with 350 exhibitors expected.



All Hail France's Garden Season

By Jean Rafferty

PARIS — "Picture bats recommended; high heels not recommended," read the invitation to May 25th's soiree for the fifth annual Art du Jardin fair, held from May 23 through May 27 this year at the Longchamp racecourse in Paris's Bois de Boulogne.

Of the host of horticultural fairs that have sprung up throughout France to exploit a fertile market of enthusiastic gardeners, the Art du Jardin is the largest, with 350 exhibitors expected to lure 30,000 visitors to a show spread over four hectares (10 acres). The model gardens of the show have a distinctly French flavor: A kitchen garden by the designer Louis Beneo includes fig trees, red-ribbed celeri, black beets and a well-filled herb garden (where the Michelin-starred chefs Chisaline Arabian, Reine Samut, Jean-Pierre Vigato, Jean Bardet and Michel Rostang will go for the ingredients of the culinary delights on the menus of the fair's restaurants.)

Other designs offer intriguing insights into French garden expertise: Veuve Cliquot's garden, "Trip to China," weaves through forest of bamboo and pagoda-hat parasols to aquatic pools of lotus flowers; Emanuel Ungaro's sea of roses showcases showers of pale pink, salmon and yellow petals; in Clarins's garden, walls of water float on a mirrored moat while waterfalls screen fountains of ferns and stands of white birch, and a pink sand dune, wildflowers, sea grasses and blue santolinas evoke the charms of the island of Guernsey.

English gardeners may be content to wait for seeds to blossom; the French wait instant greenery. With six other horticulture professionals, the designer Pierre Alexandre Risser demonstrates a dream garden put together in just two weeks: an impressive display that includes clipped topiary, citrus, magnolia, cypress, lime and olive trees, and climbing roses along with vibrant hardy perennial flower and herb gardens.

Other attractions at Longchamp feature a stand for decorating bats with fresh flowers; Saint Vrain's fairytale farm for children with baby emus, pygmy pigs and ponies; Vannerie d'Hier and d'Aujourd'hui's woven willow-branch screens, and a stave-shaving demonstration at Thomas Smith's Trugs, the steamed willow or Finnish birch baskets that date from Anglo-Saxon England.

New this year: a salon featuring 15 florists who will fashion state-of-the-art bouquets from 50,000 fresh flowers; the latest in garden furniture, including Cedre Rouge's galvanized zinc barrel-shaped chair inspired by an old-fashioned washtub; such fashionable garden

Non the Loire Valley, the Chateau de Chaumont's seventh International Garden Festival runs from June 13 to Oct. 18. Among this year's 25 water themes: an aquatic kitchen garden of vegetables, a volcanic display, a suspended water garden of exotic African fish and a music garden.

LEISURE

A Spectacular Mirage Welcomes Visitors to Lisbon's Expo '98

By Marvin Howe

ISLON — From a distance, it looks like an accidental mirage on the city's ancient shores: shining steel structures, lowing pavilions, pastel towers and townhouses and mosaic promenades. This new suburb, rising from what was a decaying industrial zone along the Tagus River.

The Oceanarium is Expo's centerpiece and Europe's largest aquarium, designed as a permanent structure by the American architect Peter Chermayeff, creator of the Baltimore and Osaka aquaria. Emerging like an island from Olivais Dock, the Oceanarium recreates four ocean regions flowing into a single vast sea. Visitors can travel to a coral atoll of the Indian Ocean, home to whale sharks and other colorful birds; watch sea otters play in a rocky cove off the Pacific coast; encounter puffins, murres and razorbills among the cliffs of the North Atlantic; visit frozen shores of the Antarctic. Theo you descend to an underwater world inhabited by sharks and rays, octopus, crabs, moray eels, schools of mackerel and other sea-life.

Nearby, the Knowledge of the Seas Pavilion, which looks like a minimalist sailing ship, presents the human discovery of the oceans through exhibits.

Spectacular structures provide access to the 60-hectare (150-acre) Expo area.

The Eastern Gate, Oriente Station, an

Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava, serves as a hub for trains, buses and the new Oriente Metro line. To the north, the 16-kilometer (10-mile) Vasco da Gama Bridge connects to highways to Spain and the Algarve and is expected to ease traffic on Lisbon's other Tagus River bridge.

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models and audiovisual displays. Visitors can follow Magellan's odyssey around the globe. Darwin's journeys in the Beagle and the Challenger's expeditions to the ocean floor. Examining a ship's hull under construction, a deep-sea bathysphere, a nuclear submarine. Shaped like a giant spaceship, the Utopia Pavilion offers entertaining shows about ocean myths, legends and the origins of humankind.

CONCENTRATED in north and south areas, the international pavilions are uniform modular structures separated by walkways and plazas. Although they share the common theme, each pavilion is a world unto itself.

Finland has recreated an icy universe with an endless ice rink and Finnish products like compasses, fishing lures and seafloor phones visible through the frozen surface. Visitors can climb into the huge prow of an ice-breaker and steer it into the port of Helsinki.

At the French pavilion, one enters a round cinema and is whisked off on an idyllic journey by helicopter along 5,500 kilometers of French coastline. Then in a vast space where the sky joins the sea,

you can view different maritime activities — transport, navigation, fishing, offshore exploration — through television monitors and a large miniature port. On display are such ocean tools as an 1886 bronze diving suit, a lighthouse lens and models of the submersible vessels used by the explorer Jacques Cousteau.

There is also an oyster-champagne bar. An important part of the French pavilion is 25 vessels rotating through Lisbon port, including the grand old cruise ship France, the 101-year-old, three-mast military training ship *Belem*, yachts and racers.

Visitors enter Holland's pavilion through a shimmering glass wave to find themselves on a great dike. There, the story of the Netherlands' love-fear relationship with the North Sea is projected on a huge screen. A showcase contains 55 models of all kinds of vessels, including tankers, warships and a Greenpeace ship. Other models show Dutch technology in land reclamation, development of the North Sea bed, management of Rotterdam, the world's busiest port, and the production of clean energy with tall wind turbines and the new "wind swing" — floating marsh-

rooms that harness the power of waves.

The British pavilion is fun, with brash sound and lights, special effects and easy-to-take video deadlines about the New Britannia. Visitors are guided through a maze on a spiral moving walkway to a surreal underwater landscape. Volcanic cones provide graphics on British projects from the English Channel to the Indian Ocean, as well as maritime innovations that can be followed up on CD-ROM.

INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCES

In the United States' pavilion, you will see sights few people have seen before: a volcano erupting on the ocean floor and deep-sea mountains higher than the Alps. You can participate in interactive experiences; touch live sea horses used in neurological research; feel an iceberg and learn how it is affected by pollution; and track a whale through the Atlantic.

On a quay beyond the berths, rises the Wave, a dramatic stainless steel sculpture 80 feet (24 meters) high and 60 feet long. This memorial wall, designed by the Washington architects Stephen Fritsch and Steven Spurlock, will be inscribed with the names of Portuguese-American families who immigrated to

the United States (and make contributions of \$100 to \$5,000). "We wanted to leave behind a permanent monument as a gift to Portugal from Portuguese-Americans," said Tony Coelho, U.S. commissioner general to Expo and a former congressman of Portuguese origin.

But the show-stealers will probably be Algeria's ships of the desert. With the theme "a land of two seas," the Algerian pavilion will feature 16 dromedaries accompanied by 44 Tuareg tribesmen and women, to be flown here from the Sahara. The caravan will set up camp at the northern end of Expo, where visitors can get a glimpse of desert life from July 4 to 26.

Every afternoon, the camels will parade around the fairgrounds, stopping occasionally to give children a photo op. In August, the caravan will move camp to the St. Jorge Castle and take processions through downtown Lisbon. The Algerians will also leave gifts for the Portuguese: a handsome 300-year-old Pistacia tree from the Sahara for the new Botanical Gardens and a pair of dromedaries for the Lisbon Zoo.

Marvin Howe is a former correspondent for The New York Times.

THE FREQUENT TRAVELER

Low-Frills Options for Crossing Atlantic

By Roger Collis
International Herald Tribune

RAVELERS are the big winners in the success of the new generation of no-frills airlines such as Ryanair, EasyJet, Debonair and Virgin Express, with cheap one-way point-to-point fares between more than 30 destinations in Europe. What we need now is low-cost options on long-haul routes — especially on the north Atlantic, where airlines are enjoying a killer's market as growing demand for seats matches capacity for the first time in a decade.

Fares from Europe to North America have grown by an average of 13 percent over the last year and 21 percent in a two-year period, primarily driven by strong demand for business travel, according to the American Express European Airfare Index for the first quarter of 1998. Business-class fares are set to rise, analysts say, by 8 percent over the next 12 months.

So welcome to City Bird, a pioneer in the Freddie Laker tradition, which offers low-cost scheduled flights between Brussels and Miami, Orlando, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas and Mexico City.

The airline took off in March 1997 with a fleet of Boeing MD-81 and 767-300 aircraft with 36 seats in business class and 335 in economy. You simply call the airline, buy a one-way ticket with your credit card and show up at the airport, with almost no flexibility as a full-fare ticket for a fraction of the cost. You can cancel or change your reservation. Economy class costs about 40 percent less and business class costs 50 to 60 percent less than major carriers. Brussels-Los Angeles one way with City Bird costs \$8,990 Belgian francs (\$250) in economy and 27,990 francs in business class, compared with 25,000 francs and 85,000 francs respectively on major carriers.

City Bird economy is a classic cattle class with tiered rows of 30 to 32-inch pitch seats. But who's complaining at that price? Business class is probably closer to Virgin Atlantic's premium economy class for full-fare economy passengers than busi-

ness class on full-service carriers like Air Canada or United Airlines — although City Bird passengers do get a comfortable wide reclining seat with footrest, along with personal Watchman videos and power supply ports for laptops.

"We're not a no-frills airline because no-frills isn't possible across the Atlantic," said Victor Hasson, chief executive of City Bird. "But we are low cost, low fare. Plus the flexibility of one-way fares which is unique in the market."

Despite low fares, City Bird's initial load factor of 60 percent, which has risen to 65 percent, is not enough, and the airline faced two major problems: fewer point-to-point passengers than expected and tough competition from major carriers, such as British Airways, Air France and Lufthansa, poaching cross-border traffic with discounted fares from City Bird's Brussels hub.

City Bird struck a deal with Sabena whereby City Bird passengers can buy one-way onward connections through Brussels to 48 destinations in Europe that Sabena serves for an extra \$60 to \$150, depending on distance and travel in the front or back of the plane on the Sabena leg.

A one-way ticket on City Bird from Los Angeles or Las Vegas to Brussels, for example, costs \$279 in economy and \$849 in business class. Connections to destinations in Britain, France, the Netherlands, Spain or Germany cost \$69 to \$96 more.

The Heathrow Express train service, replacing the interim Fast Train service, is set to open in June. At speeds of up to 100 miles an hour (160 kilometers an hour), trains will run every 15 minutes and will cut journey times from Paddington in central London to 15 minutes to terminals 1, 2 and 3 and 20 minutes to terminal 4.

The trains, with capacity for nearly 400 passengers, have airline-style seating and service with pay phones, TV, travel information and news. Digital mobile phones can be used throughout the ride, including the tunnel section. The standard one-way fare will cost about £10.

American Airlines, British Airways and British Midland will provide check-in facilities for passengers with carry-on baggage at Paddington. Full baggage check-in at 27 airline desks will be available in 1999.

The Heathrow Express Web site is at www.heathrowexpress.com

EATING IN LONDON You don't have to go into the grandest restaurants to eat well in London. But straying into the wrong places can lead to some diabolical culinary (and wallet-threatening) experiences.

Help is at hand with the seventh edition of "Harden's London Restaurants 1998," published by two brothers, Richard and Peter Harden, which rates the capital's 1,100 most notable restaurants, cafes, pubs and bars. Harden's inspiration was the Zagat New York City Restaurants Guide. It follows the Zagat form of short, pithy remarks like "inexpensive but overpriced"; "a Lloyd Webber performance — for tourists only"; or "where designer-stubbled trodies ostentatiously work off their hangovers."

"Harden's London Restaurants 1998," £7.95, is sold at bookstores.

ARTS GUIDE

BELGIUM

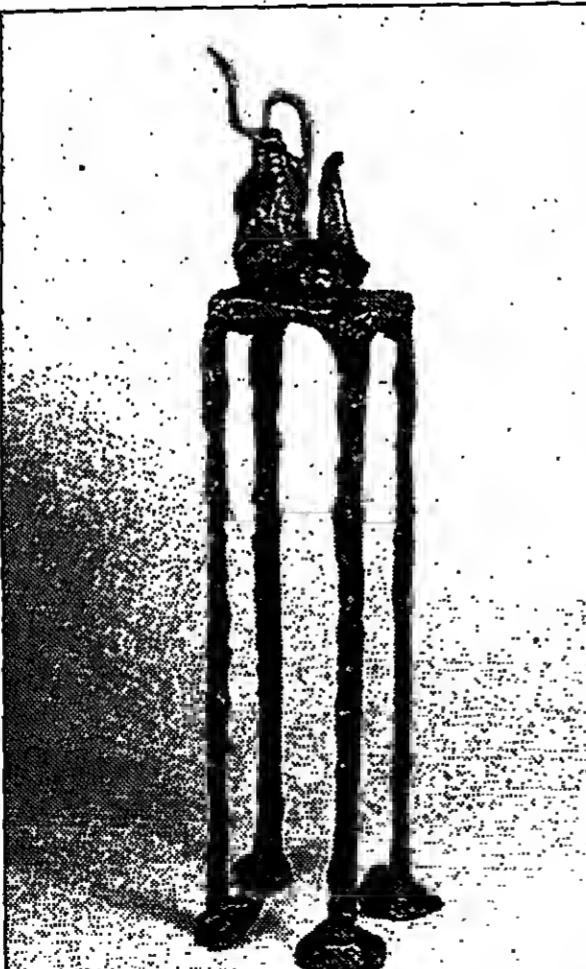
ANTWERP Museum voor de Kunsten, tel: (3) 236-09, closed Mondays. Continues to July 26: "Pieter Brueghel the Younger and Jan Brueghel l'Ancien: the Family of Painters Flemish in 1600." More than 100 paintings and works on paper by the sons of Pieter Brueghel the Elder, a painter of scenes and still lifes, and Pieter Brueghel the Younger, who copied his father's work. The show also features 12 paintings by the elder Brueghel.

BRITAIN

INDIA Hayward Gallery, tel: (171) 860-28, open daily. To June 14: "An Kapoor." Since his early sculptures, Kapoor (born in 1954) has developed a distinctive body of work in stone, marble, pigment, glass, steel and plaster, with his recent work exploring the concept of the "void." The exhibition includes 16 large-scale pieces. www.hayward-gallery.org.uk

FRANCE

PARIS Georges Pompidou, tel: 44-59-29-70, closed Tuesdays. July 27: "Max Ernst: Sculptures, Scènes et Paysages." Focuses on links between the German artist's works and the places where he lived, even shortly: Tyrol, Arizona, Long Island near New York, the Loire Valley in France. The exhibition brings together more than 100 sculptures and 15 paintings and will travel to Durban, South Africa, and the Queen of Hearts in Paris.



A Miquel Barceló sculpture on display in Barcelona.

NETHERLANDS Kunsthalle der Hypo-Kulturstiftung, tel: (89) 22-44-12, open daily. To Aug. 16: "Pablo Picasso und Seine Sammlung." More than 120 works from Picasso's private collection, including works by Braque, Cézanne, Dali, Degas, Gauguin, Giacometti, Matisse, Modigliani, Renoir and Seurat, as well as 30 of his own works.

SPAIN

MUSEU d'Art Contemporani, tel: (93) 412-08-10, closed Mondays. To June 21: "Miguel Barceló, 1967-1997." Approximately 200 paintings, drawings, pouches, watercolors and sculptures of the past 10 years, which reflect the desert and African landscapes discovered by the Spanish artist (born in 1957) during his travels to the Sahara and West Africa.

MADRID Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, tel: (1) 457-50-82, closed Tuesdays. To June 1: "Esteban Vicente: Obras de 1950-1998." Documents the Spanish-born painter's career since his arrival in New York in 1950 when he became closely acquainted with the Abstract Expressionists. Features paintings, works on paper and collages.

SWEDEN Nationalmuseum, tel: (8) 666-42-50, closed Mondays. To Sept. 27: "The City as Vision of Horror or Delight." Depiction of Stockholm through the eyes of artists and architects from the Middle Ages to the present day. www.nationalmuseum.se

SWITZERLAND Fondation Beyeler, tel: (61) 645-9719, open daily. To Sept. 27: "Roy Lichtenstein." A retrospective of works by the American master of Pop painting (1923-1997). The 80 works, whose subjects are often banal objects of modern society or enlarged comic strips, encompass the years 1960 to 1990. www.beyeler.com

GERMANY Kunstmuseum, tel: (61) 271-0445, closed Mondays. To July 19: "Andy Warhol: Zeichnungen, 1942-1987." A selection of 200 drawings from the thousands by the American artist whose philosophy was that "business art is a much better thing to be making than art-en."

UNITED STATES Brooklyn Museum of Art, tel: (718) 638-5000, closed Mondays. May 24: "Scandinavia and Germany, 1800-1914: Encounters and Bonds." Stockholm, May 24: "Joan Miró." Centro Cultural Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City. May 24: "Auguste Picard, Royal Sculptor." Metropolitan Museum, New York. May 25: "Visions of Paris: Robert Delaunay's Series." Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York. May 25: "China: 5,000 Years." Guggenheim Museum SoHo, New York. May 26: "Per Kirkeby." Tate Gallery, London. May 26: "Chuck Close." Museum of Modern Art, New York.

CLOSING SOON

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DESTINATION GREECE DOORWAY TO ART

THE CREATIVE TRADITION LIVES ON AND PROSPERS

Greek artists are going strong in Athens and other parts of Greece, as a sampling of recent shows attests.

If the Greeks want to prove a direct connection with their ancient ancestors, all they have to do is point to their continued achievements in painting and sculpture — a tradition that even the long Ottoman occupation did not disrupt.

Their cities are adorned with beautiful statues and busts chiseled by the followers of the ancient master Phidias. Their galleries are filled with paintings that are the direct descendants of those by the fourth and fifth century B.C. artists Apelles and Zeuxis, by way of Domenikos Theotokopoulos — better known as El Greco.

Late spring and early summer are good times to appreciate art in modern Greece, since many galleries in Athens and other cities and towns are launching new exhibits.

According to art consultant Katerina Trakakis, scores of prominent artists are currently on exhibit at the main Athenian galleries. The most important current retrospective is that of Alexis Akrihakis at the National Gallery, covering all periods of his career. Akrihakis, born in Athens in 1939, was the most representative spirit of his generation, says Ms. Trakakis: innovative, explosive, displaying all the characteristics of a bohemian until his death in 1995. He attracted the admiration of both the Greeks and foreigners who saw his work.

Akrihakis studied in Berlin, where he moved in 1967, thanks to a German Institute scholarship. He stayed in Germany until 1980, exhibiting in several cities. According to the late Greek art collector Iolas, Akrihakis was "one of the most genuine and most talented artists of his generation."

Revisiting the masters

Another important exhibit is at the Gallery New Forms, where 12 artists, including sculptor George Lappas, 50, who has studied and worked in the United States, are showing what they call Original Replicas, or paintings inspired by famous masterpieces of great artists.

Mr. Lappas, who recently had an exhibit at the Lehmann-Maupin Gallery in New York, explains that his sculpture was inspired by a 1833 painting of a swimmer by Georges Seurat. Yannis Adamakos presents "Van Gogh Feeding Matisse's Fish." "I combined the sunflowers of Van Gogh with the fishbowl of Henri Matisse," he says. Anni Costopoulou, inspired by Picasso's "Two Girls Running on the Sand," has turned out "Two Girls Dancing on a Stage." Angelos Papadimitriou was inspired by the Goddess of the Snakes, an ivory statue dating to 1600 B.C. that was found in the Palace of Minos in Knossos.

In her gallery, situated in the shade of the Acropolis, near the central market of Athens.

Late spring and early summer are good times to appreciate art in modern Greece

Rebecca Kamhi has been showing the works of the 30-year-old artist DeAnna Maganias. Ms. Maganias, who was born in New York, now works and lives in Athens. "Her constructions model quasi-domestic environments that are physically impossible to enter or to exit," says Ms. Kamhi. Ms. Maganias, who studied at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C., the Rhode Island School of Design and Cooper Union in New York, says: "I do paintings from memory and from a collection of images and recurring nightmares that have been part of my personal world since childhood."

Another painter, Lili Papoula, exhibits her works at the Kremeni Gallery in Kolonaki, the center of Athens' artistic and social life. Ms. Papoula, 43, studied at the St. Martin's School of Art in London before returning to Greece and graduating from the Higher School of Arts in Athens. Manos Stefanidis, curator of the National Gallery, says the painter, who spe-

cializes in landscapes, "wants to be confessional, but at the same time wants to exclude from her images any suspicion of rhetoric or pomposity."

Another leading Greek painter is Stephen Antonakos, born on the island of Lesbos in 1926, whose parents immigrated to the United States in 1930. Mr. Antonakos, who has held several exhibits in the United States, now lives and works in New York. He, together with Dimitri Alithinos, a 53-year-old who lives and works in Athens; Alexandros Psychoulis, 32, who also works in Athens; and Thanassis Totsikas, 47, who lives in Thessaly; represented Greece in the 47th Biennale in Venice, says Efi Stroussa, commissioner of the Biennale: "They are dissimilarly developed, with divergent directions and outlooks due to their age differences, disparate ideological backgrounds and different repositories of personal and artistic experience."

Mr. Antonakos represents one of the most remarkable examples of the Greek Diaspora. Ms. Stroussa writes: "Born in Greece, he was only four years old when he moved to the United States. He became one of the first exponents, in the '60s, of the employment of neon light as a new material and as a means of artistic expression." The work he presented at the 47th Biennale, entitled "The Chapel of the Heavenly Ladder," was shown outdoors in front of the entrance to the Greek Pavilion. The focal idea of his creation was a series of meditation spaces in which visitors could contemplate their inner selves.

Mr. Psychoulis uses computer memory to store over 4,000 still and video pictures, which correspond to an equal number of words.

Concealing to reveal
During the Biennale, Mr. Alithinos realized his 72nd "Katakrypsis," or "Concealment." This consisted of drawing a work at the bottom of a trench inside the pavilion. After the end of the exhibit, the trench was filled up, and the work remains covered up, a sample of today's civilization saved for posterity. Besides his Concealments, Mr. Alithinos has painted the interiors of temples and their facades, including a mural in the Temple of the Rainbow in Ounda, Benin, West Africa and a Buddhist mound in Bodhnath, Nepal as well as ceremonial



Part of the lineage: a wall painting from the archaeological museum in Heraklion.

paintings in Évounia, also in Nepal. Mr. Totsikas showed what he called "I Love Ducati Best," a demonstration of his passion for a Ducati motorcycle. Mr. Stroussa says: "The motorcycle, apart from being a modern vehicle, a status symbol or an allusion to Pegasus, is mainly a real object which encompasses the miracle of high technology. As such, it embodies a tremendous energy and conveys a dynamic aestheticism."

Rena Anoussi, who specializes in etchings: Dora Kepenit and Popi Lerta are Greek artists who have organized a show called "Three

Women, Three Journeys," opening this week at the House of Cyprus in Athens. Takis Stefanou is showing his paintings at the Peritechno Gallery. Mary Barbati at a gallery on the island of Kea in the Aegean, and the sculptor Kyriakos Kambadakis at the Old Archaeological Mu-

seum of Thessaloniki. Nikos Kessanlis, one of the most interesting portrait painters, has a

show in Rethymnon, Crete called "Faces, Versions of the Human Form, 1953-1997."

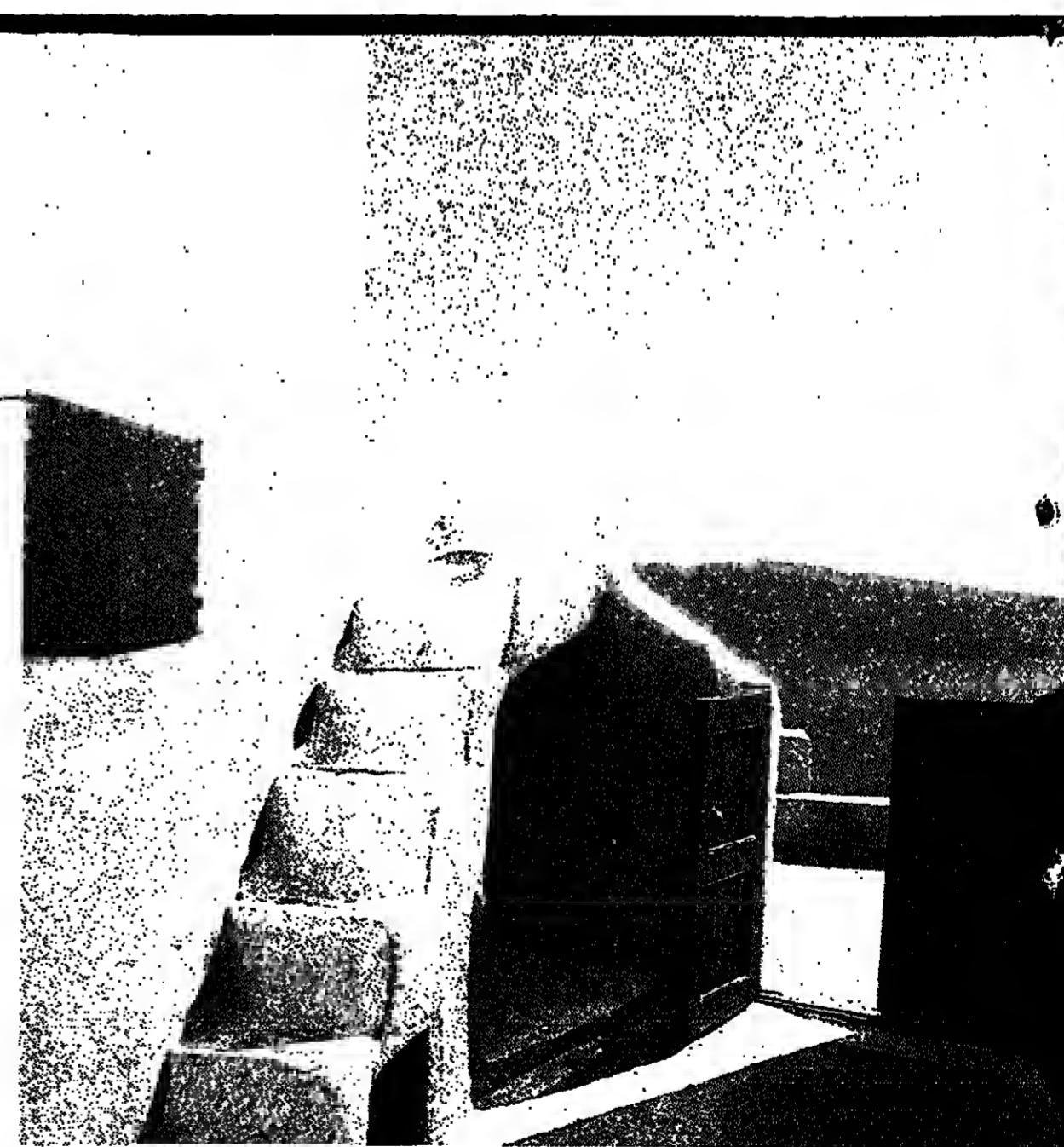
A show called "Greece and Greek Gods" opens this week in the Port of Piraeus, featuring the works of the sculptor Mihalis Kassis. •

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GREECE: The Authentic Choice

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1998

PAGE 13

R

Family Feud Mars Sale of Fabled Store

Harry Winston's Scions Battle for Jewelry Empire

By Jennifer Steinbauer
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — From his opulent, vaultlike store on Fifth Avenue, Harry Winston once bathed movie stars and princesses in diamonds, rubies and emeralds. His personal assistant remembers him staring at his favorite diamonds "the way parents look at their newborn child."

Even now, two decades after Mr. Winston's death, few actresses would think of going to an Academy Awards ceremony without first arranging for a loan of a costly Harry Winston necklace or tiara.

But Harry Winston Inc., the legendary luxury business that Mr. Winston created, is now on the selling block.

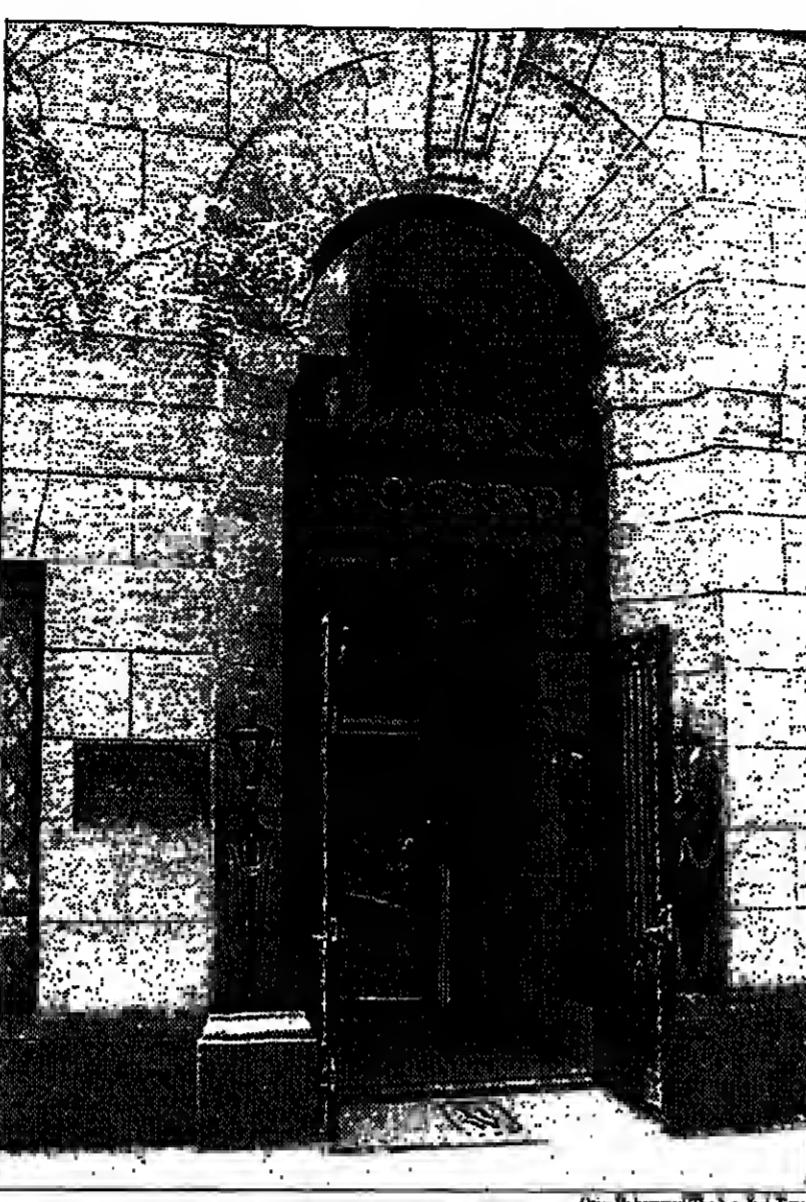
The sale is the culmination of a nearly decadelong fight between Mr. Winston's two sons. It pits Ronald, the older brother who learned the business at his father's side and currently runs it, against Bruce, the sibling whom Ronald dismissed from a marketing job at the jewelry store in 1994.

After years of litigation, a judge in suburban Westchester County — where the cases have been heard — ruled that Ronald could no longer block the sale of the privately held company that two other trustees had long been seeking. Several weeks ago, Credit Suisse First Boston was retained to dangle the jewelry retailer before potential buyers.

Harry Winston is one of the few great luxury names in American retailing; the least expensive item in its Fifth Avenue salon is an \$800 writing pen.

It is best known for its ornate multi-million-dollar necklaces and rings. *Marilyn Monroe*, in the song "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" from the 1953 movie "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," sang seductively: "Talk to me, Harry Winston." *Woody Allen* used the store recently for a dance scene in his film "Everyone Says I Love You."

Besides New York, the company owns jewelry emporiums in Geneva, Tokyo, Paris and Beverly Hills, and it privately sees hundreds of wealthy clients around the world. Ronald Winston,



From Associated Press, New York Times

Harry Winston, on Fifth Avenue in New York, has long served the rich.

interviewed by telephone from Tokyo, said he still expected to end up in control of the company. "I am the logical buyer, and I intend to own it," he said. "I will give my brother fair value and let him go his way, and I'll go mine."

But it may be too late for that. Even though Ronald remains bitterly opposed to selling to an outsider, he may be powerless to stop the sale. Herbert Chaice, the lawyer for Gerald Schultz, a trustee of the business, said, "My own personal view is that Ronald will have blocked their repeated requests for detailed information."

Some of those involved in the case estimate that Harry Winston has sales of \$150 million to \$200 million a year. By comparison, Tiffany & Co., which has expanded as a public company, has sold its Fifth Avenue roots, had sales last year of about \$1 billion, and its stock is now worth about \$1.6 billion on

See WINSTON, Page 17

Thinking Ahead / Commentary

Bridging the French-American Rift

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — A sure way to get a laugh at most Washington dinner parties is to tell an anti-French joke. Fan mail pours in to this column whenever it criticizes France, however mildly. France may be America's oldest ally, but the two countries are also entwined in a unique love-hate relationship. The two cultures grate on each other. Americans react badly to what they see as French arrogance and selfishness, the French resent American power.

The advent of the global economy has given an added twist to this long-running saga. The popular image of France in today's America is of a protectionist, socialist state fighting a vain and misguided rear-guard action against market forces.

In France, it is fashionable to depict the United States as a ruthless capitalist Godzilla bent on destroying the hallowed French way of life. Both images are overblown. Whatever else Americans may feel about France, they love the French way of life.

And France, the world's fourth-largest trading power, is far more engaged in the global economy than most Americans realize. As Jean-Claude Trichet, the governor of the Bank of France, recently told a somewhat surprised audience in Washington, France is the world's third-largest recipient and exporter of foreign direct investment.

Some in the French government are trying to end the mutual suspicion.

American suspicions have been riding high, with some believing that France wants the euro to dethrone the dollar, others that Paris will try to turn the euro zone into a protectionist fortress.

Mr. Moscovici, however, promised that the new Europe would be open to the United States and strongly reaffirmed France's commitment to the multilateral trading system. That, not anti-Americanism, was why France recently vetoed a European Commission proposal for a new trans-Atlantic trade pact, he insisted. Rather than undermining the dollar, he said, the euro offered the prospect of U.S.-

European management of the international monetary system, and a stronger Europe — not a U.S. monopoly of power — was in America's best interests.

Some Americans will be cynical about these blandishments. They do not alter the fact that in many fields France sees its interests as differing from those of the United States, and that French and American views of the role of markets are poles apart.

But it seems clear that France has decided that the global economy calls for a stronger trans-Atlantic relationship and that Europe, with the euro and moves toward a common foreign policy, should increasingly qualify as an equal partner for the United States.

The key aim would be "shared leadership," allowing France, through Europe, to gain power relative to America. Now that Brussels and Washington have at least temporarily defused their dispute over U.S. economic sanctions against Cuba, Iran and Libya, France will be more willing to discuss closer trans-Atlantic trade and economic cooperation.

That could augur well for other contentious areas, such as the role of France — and Europe — in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. At the very least, Paris is saying it wants more love and less hate in the French-American relationship. That is progress. But the demand for good French jokes in Washington is unlikely to diminish soon.

E-mail address:
thinkahead@washpost.com

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

Currency	Per \$	Per £	Per €	Per F	Per S.F.	Per Yen	Per C.	Per Pounds
Amsterdam	1.397	3.265	1.259	8.620	1.114	1.232	1.466	1.327
Brussels	1.399	3.267	1.260	8.622	1.115	1.233	1.468	1.328
Copenhagen	1.392	3.262	1.257	8.615	1.110	1.228	1.463	1.323
London (0)	1.395	3.269	1.270	8.624	1.118	1.235	1.470	1.330
Madrid	1.407	3.249	1.257	8.614	1.115	1.228	1.465	1.324
Milan	1.395	3.235	1.252	8.604	1.105	1.223	1.459	1.319
New York (0)	1.375	3.205	1.235	8.585	1.095	1.212	1.445	1.310
Paris	1.365	3.195	1.225	8.575	1.085	1.202	1.436	1.300
Tokyo	1.328	2.713	1.215	8.249	1.052	1.173	1.395	1.265
Toronto	1.391	3.205	1.235	8.585	1.095	1.212	1.445	1.310
TECU	1.073	1.471	0.538	0.865	0.729	0.871	1.045	1.015
SDR	1.392	3.231	1.257	8.624	1.118	1.235	1.468	1.328

London, Madrid, Milan, New York, Tokyo, Toronto, SDR rates from May 21, others from May 20. © 1998 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per \$	Per £	Per €	Per F	Per S.F.	Per Yen	Per C.	Per Pounds
Argentina peso	8.999	1.445	0.820	1.114	1.114	1.114	1.114	1.114
Brazilian real	1.237	1.659	1.000	1.237	1.237	1.237	1.237	1.237
British pound	1.447	2.245	1.447	1.447	1.447	1.447	1.447	1.447
Chinese yuan	8.289	1.467	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Czech koruna	32.51	4.645	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
Danish krona	6.704	1.000	0.670	0.670	0.670	0.670	0.670	0.670
Egyptian pound	1.99	0.613	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.400
Finn. markka	5.341	0.869	0.573	0.573	0.573	0.573	0.573	0.573

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	120-day	180-day	240-day	300-day	360-day
Pound Sterling	1.6246	1.6192	1.6109	1.6058	1.5945	1.5856	1.5755	1.5655
Canadian dollar	1.4465	1.4448	1.4438	1.4428	1.4415	1.4405	1.4395	1.4385
Deutsche mark	1.7565	1.7534	1.7505	1.7475	1.7445	1.7415	1.7385	1.7355

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); CIBC Investment Bank (Toronto); Banca Commerciale d'Italia (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from the Associated Press, Bloomberg and Reuters.

Libid-Libor Rates

May 21/May 20. Data applies to interbank deposits of \$1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais.

Prices apply to 10-year GDRs.

Yield

Price

Interest rate

Call money

1-month interbank

3-month interbank

6-month interbank

1-year interbank

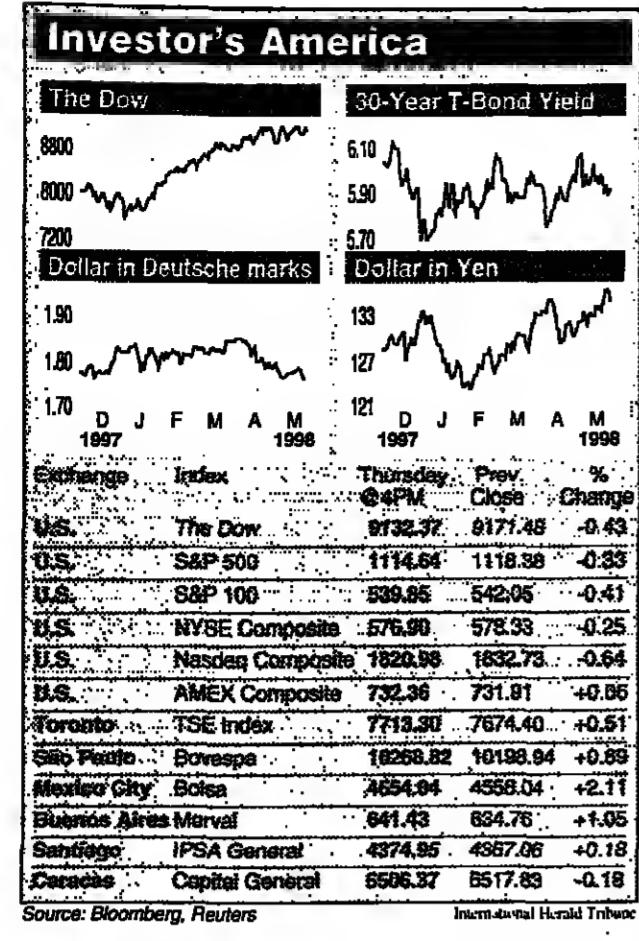
1-year GDR

10-year GDR

10-year CDR

10-year GDR

THE AMERICAS



Motorola Switches Its Bets on Satellites

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — Motorola Inc. said Thursday it would end its \$12.9 billion Celestri satellite project and invest about \$750 million in rival Teledesic LLC as part of a plan to focus on more profitable ventures.

Motorola, which is abandoning Celestri less than a year after announcing the ambitious project, will get a 26 percent stake in closely held Teledesic. The investment includes an undisclosed amount of cash and the value of Celestri's design and development work that will be redirected to Teledesic.

By teaming up with Motorola, Teledesic's backers — Microsoft Corp.'s chairman, Bill Gates, and the cellular-phone pioneer Craig McCaw — are eliminating one competitor and hoping to grab a bigger piece of the satellite-communications market. Motorola also is elim-

inating billions of dollars in costs for Celestri and will become Teledesic's prime contractor.

"This is a natural fit of core competencies, know-how and vision," said Christopher Galvin, Motorola's chief executive. "Rather than continuing along our separate paths, we're combining our best efforts to deliver a new generation of broadband communications services to people around the world."

Motorola shares closed at \$35.5625 Thursday, up 56.25 cents.

Teledesic plans to provide Internet, voice and video communications anywhere in the world through a network of 288 satellites that are scheduled to begin service in 2003. Boeing Co., the world's largest aerospace company, and Matra Marconi Space, a satellite manufacturer, will become a partner in the Teledesic project.

Matra Marconi Space is the joint venture formed by Lagardere SA of France and General Electric Co. of Britain. It employs 5,000 people and had 1997 revenue of \$1.5 billion.

Motorola's move comes as Mr. Galvin is trying to shake up Motorola, the world's largest maker of cellular phones, to turn around its failing profit and stock price.

Besides Celestri, Motorola has plans for two other satellite networks. Through its 21 percent stake in Iridium LLC, Motorola already has started to launch a \$5 billion satellite system for wireless phone calls. Motorola also has proposed a project called M-Star, a \$6.1 billion venture that will use 72 satellites.

Motorola said last June it would

build the \$12.9 billion Celestri net-

work to provide voice, data and video communications to phone compa-

nies, businesses and telecommuni-

cations.

Motorola also is elim-

inating revenue of \$1.5 billion. At the time, Celestri was viewed as a bold competitive move by the world's largest maker of cellular phones and pagers. It would dwarf Teledesic and a joint venture of France's Alcatel-Alsthom SA and Loral Space & Communications Ltd. of the United States.

But Celestri also would have posed a conflict for Motorola. With Celestri, Motorola will operate its own network. At the same time, it hopes to become a supplier to other satellite system operators such as Teledesic.

Celestri would have been the sixth multibillion-dollar satellite venture, and competition in the field is already formidable. Alcatel-Alsthom and Loral have proposed a \$3.9 billion satellite system called SkyBridge. The system will be based on 64 low Earth-orbiting satellites and is expected to begin operating in 2001.

Dollar Sags In Wake of Suharto Exit

Compiled by Our Staff From Reuters

NEW YORK — The dollar fell against most other major currencies Thursday as market tensions eased after the resignation of President Suharto of Indonesia.

Dealers said investors had trimmed dollar holdings they had recently accumulated on fear that the turmoil in Indonesia might spread. Mr. Suharto's

departure was seen as the first step toward a peaceful solution.

But worries about his successor, B.J. Habibie, limited the dollar's losses because of concern that someone so closely identified with Mr. Suharto might still face civil unrest.

Mr. Habibie "wasn't liked as president, so why would he be liked as president?" asked Marc Chandler, a strategist at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

The dollar fell to 134.95 yen in 4 P.M. trading from 136.01 yen Wednesday.

The dollar also fell against most European currencies on expectations that interest rates in Europe may head higher. It fell to 1.7585 Deutsche marks from 1.7703 DM, to 5.8925 French francs from 5.9365 francs and to 1.4643 Swiss francs from 1.4763 francs. The pound slipped to \$1.6305 from \$1.6333.

"Now there's a viable alternative to the dollar," with the European rate outlook, said Bill Berthia, a dealer at Mellon Bank. (Bridge News, Reuters)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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Zapata Goes Fishing but Fails to Land Excite

By Mitchell Martin
International Herald Tribune

acquire and consolidate leading Internet and e-commerce businesses into a global network."

Zapata said it would only pursue a friendly bid, but Excite quickly rejected the offer. In a press release drolly headlined "Excite Declines to Acquire Food Processing Company," the Redwood City, California-based company noted that its market capitalization was about \$1.3 billion, compared with the \$250 million value that investors place on Zapata's stock. Excite said that disparity and "the complete lack of synergy" between the companies' businesses mean that the offer "holds no particular value" to its shareholders.

Andrea Williams, an analyst at Volpe Brown Whelan & Co. in San Francisco, agreed but said Internet Corp. to the public.

Mr. Glazer also said Zapata could bring "capital resources" to Excite, although it was unclear whether he was referring to his father's wealth, estimated by Forbes magazine at \$300 million.

A Zapata source said the company's campaign to buy Web sites had drawn sufficient publicity and that the offer was a serious bid to expand into the Internet business.

Excite offers free on-line information services under its own brand name and as Webcrawler. There are localized versions of Excite, which Ms. Williams said was the second-biggest service of its kind behind Yahoo Inc. in Australia, Britain, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and Sweden.

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Fears of Higher Interest Rates and Lower Earnings Shake Wall Street

Compiled by Our Staff From Reuters

NEW YORK — Zapata Corp., a fishing company that was founded as an energy concern by George Bush before he entered politics, made an unexpected and unwelcomed \$1.72 billion all-stock bid Thursday for the Internet search-engine concern Excite Inc.

The bid was seen on Wall Street as a gambit to draw attention to Zapata's recent expansion into the on-line industry. The company — controlled by its chairman, the millionaire investor Malcolm Glazer — last month acquired two on-line magazines and has been offering through newspaper advertisements to purchase World Wide Web sites. It said its goal was to

acquire and consolidate leading Internet and e-commerce businesses into a global network."

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U.S. Firms Go on Asia Buying Spree

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The number of U.S. companies buying Asian concerns has hit record levels this year. Through May 13, acquisitions of Asian companies totaled \$4.8 billion, according to Securities Data Co. That is an increase of 14 percent over 1996, the busiest year ever.

Japanese companies made up 54 percent of the announced acquisitions, for a total of 13 deals valued at \$2.6 billion.

AP/Bloomberg

AMEX

The 300 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street.

The Associated Press

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Compiled by Our Staff From Reuters

Corporate and Economic News

Thursday's 4 P.M. Close

The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere

ences not reflecting late t

12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100% High Low Latest Chg

STUMBLING IN HER DELICATE SATIN SLIPPERS AND ALMOST TRIPPING ON THE

hem of her diaphanous gown, the young bride fought back tears of irritation. Much as she abhorred the idea of a row with her new husband on only their second day of wedded bliss, she could not imagine why he was insisting she made her way to the moonlit Raffles' poolside in full evening regalia. 'Are you sure the restaurant's this way, darling?' she ventured through gritted teeth, all too aware of her husband's famously poor sense of direction. 'Only I'm not really dressed for one of your short cuts.' It was then that the tears began to flow in earnest. For there at the poolside, bathed in a soft candlelit glow, was an exquisite table à deux perfectly framed by its leafy gleamed in the starlight, a in its frosty bucket and a stage on the starched white linen



ose collaboration in this surprise had been
hand with a freshly laundered handkerchief.

Raffles Hotel, 1 Beach Road, Singapore 099673, Tel: (65) 337-1886, Fax: (65) 339-7650, E-mail: raffles@pacific.net.sg

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Symbol	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	52s	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg	12 Month	High	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	52s	100s	High	Low	Latest	
4000	Digital pf	2.22	8.5		186	2614	267s	267s		-14	211s	164	FMCG pfd	.86	4.5		178	198	198s	197s	197s	
327s	Dillards	.16	.4	18	2810	4214	421s	421s		-14	314	21	FM RoyT				616	616	214	214	214	
416	DimeBags	.20	.4	22	4356	1234	29	29	+4%		167s	94	FM Satu n	.60	1.1		99	94	14	134	14	
124s	Diron	.50	.50	9	335	1234	139s	139s		-14	625s	234s	FresenM				53	55	56	56	56	
729s	DiscAuf	.51	.51	31	158	6216	261s	252s		-14	211s	30	FresenM				180	224s	224s	224s	224s	
729s	Discney	.42	.42	401	16782	1164	114s	114s		-14	714s	104	FrodatM				149	186	186s	186s	186s	
524s	Dole	.40	.40	26	1429	484	46	46	+2%		334s	17	FrodatCo	.89	2.3		511	511	164	164	164	
21	Dollart g	.4	4	42	2518	494	399s	399s		-14	304s	20	FrodatCo				257	257	257	257	257	
147s	DollarTn	.14	.14	22	421	131	129s	129s		-14	94s	34	FrostOM				10	127	55	54	54	
111s	Domin	n		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	304s	15	FruitOM				19	20	20	20	20	
237s	DominRes	2.58	6.6	q	28	7478	394	389s	389s		-14	211s	23	FurnBirds				22	181	17	209	209
184s	DmBwBw	3.13	14.3	14.3	23	227	221s	211s	211s	-14	254s	12	Furon s	.12	.6	16	553	20	19	19	19	
G-1-1																						
271s	G&L	2.5	18.0		88	2514					257s	46	GATX	2.00	2.4		571	624	604	624	624	
557s	G&L	2.56	18.0		53	156	156	156		-14	174s	71	GP Sizd				104	157	157s	157s	157s	
101s	GDK	1.8	4.0	304s	571	571s	571s	571s		-14	449s	324	GPU	2.06	5.3		308	370s	370s	370s	370s	
227s	GDorley	.50	1.8	27	1675	1464	454	454	+2%		816	494	GRC				7	129	79s	79s	79s	
162s	DowerD	.35	1.8	23	101	201	201s	201s		-14	158	91	GT EEEur	5.4	14.6		633	633	104	104	104	
822s	DowCh	.38	1.8	13	7028	974	96s	96s		-14	245s	14	GT EEEur	1.00			98	98	98	98	98	
191s	DowDowP	.50	.9	19	1028	2414	221s	221s		-14	274s	256	GT EEEur	2.31	8.9		205	206	206	206	206	
97s	Dromo	.11	.11	157	157	157s	157s	157s		-14	119s	94	GovtObn	1.00			122	122	104	104	104	
16	Drofici	.76	1.8	9	1239	151	151s	151s		-14	284s	243	GobRid	2.00	7.4		259	274	274s	274s	274s	
557s	DrofIC	.87	1.8	169	659	659s	659s	659s		-14	104s	74	Golmco	.37	.9		15	15	81s	81s	81s	
89s	Drofri	.41	4.2	1222	970	970s	970s	970s		-14	207s	156	Golmey				20	20	25	25	25	
225s	DrofysM	.41	4.4	1587	91	91s	91s	91s		-14	447s	214	Golmey	1.40	3.2		574	574	434	434	434	
504s	DrofysM	.41	4.4	211221	514	29	201s	201s		-14	447s	14	Golmey				426	426	426	426	426	
224s	DrofysM	.41	4.4	225	375	201s	201s	201s		-14	207s	14	Golmey				158	158	158	158	158	
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Continued on Page 18

ASIA/PACIFIC

Bank of Japan's Assessment of Economy Worsens

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — The central bank lowered its assessment of Japan's ailing economy Thursday, saying the cycle of output, income and spending had turned negative and that downward pressure remained strong.

The new assessment came amid reports that the government was ready to acknowledge what private economists had long said: that Japan's economy is in a recession. Domestic media said the government's Economic Planning Agency would announce the recession in June after consulting a panel of experts meeting to assess the economy.

The central bank said that public-works spending had bottomed out, that growth in exports had peaked because of slowdowns in Asian economies, that capital investment was in decline and that consumer spending showed no sign of improvement.

These factors "indicate production, income and expenditure show negative interaction with one another," the bank said, suggesting it was more pessimistic about the economy than it was a month ago.

Still, the bank said it expected a 16.65 trillion yen (\$122 billion) government stimulus package released last month to alleviate the downward pressure on the economy.

"The package has new measures and is also substantial in size," said Masaru Hayami, the central bank's governor. "At least we can say it will work positively for the economy. We need to watch for a while."

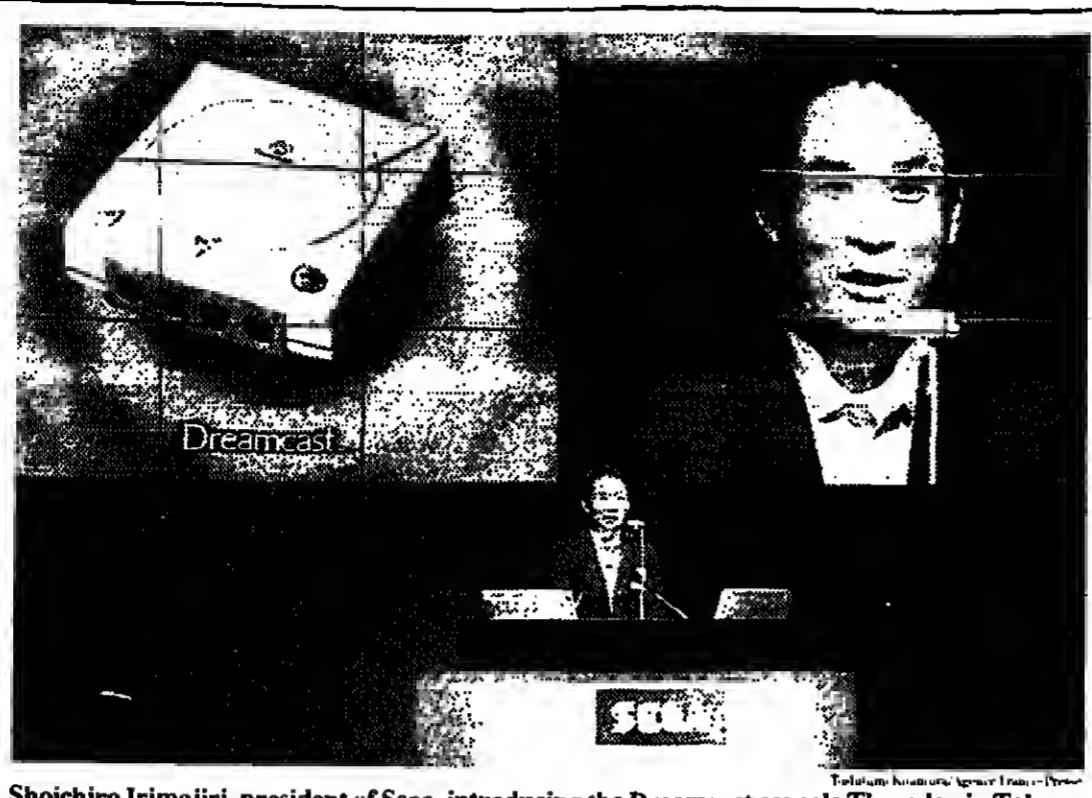
Mr. Hayami said economic conditions had prompted the bank of Japan's policy board to maintain its current easy monetary policy.

Because of the weak economy, the bank has kept the discount rate, the rate it charges for overnight loans, at a record low of 0.5 percent since September 1995 and its target for overnight loans between banks just below that level.

Japan's unemployment rate reached a post-World War II high of 3.9 percent in March, and corporate bankruptcies rose 16.4 percent in the year that ended March 31, with liabilities from those failures reaching a record 14.5 trillion yen, up 57 percent from a year earlier.

The central bank said prices were likely to weaken, reflecting high inventories and weak demand. Wholesale prices continue to fall, and consumer prices are clearly static, the bank said.

Masayuki Matsushima, head of the central bank's research and statistics bureau, told the Nihon Keizai newspaper last week that Japan could face deflation in three to six months. (Reuters, Bloomberg)



Shioichiro Irimajiri, president of Sega, introducing the Dreamcast console Thursday in Tokyo.

Sega Dreams Up New Video Game**Latest Digital Machine Will Be First With Internet Access**

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Sega Enterprises Ltd. said Thursday it would replace its struggling Saturn game play with a 128-bit home video-game machine called "Dreamcast" running Microsoft Corp.'s Windows CE operating system.

The player will be the first game machine with access to the Internet. Sega's machine will challenge Sony Corp.'s PlayStation and Nintendo Co.'s Nintendo 64 in the estimated \$15 billion video game market.

"I am confident that Dreamcast will become a de-facto standard for the future of digital entertainment," Sega's chairman, Isao Okawa, said.

The new machine will be launched in Japan on Nov. 20 and in 1999 outside Japan.

Sega is betting that Dreamcast's faster graphics performance will enable it to build on the Saturn's 5 percent market share and turn around Sega's financial performance. Sega will release its profits

for the year to March 31 on Friday, and the company has already warned it will post a loss because of weak U.S. sales.

As Sega's profits have fallen, its rival, Sony, has driven earnings up to record levels, helped by strong sales of its PlayStation.

Sega said it sold 3 million Saturn machines since they went on sale in November 1994 in Japan, and the rest of the world in 1995. By contrast, Sony said it shipped 30 million PlayStation since they went on sale in December 1994. Nintendo said it had sold 11.5 million Nintendo 64 machines as of Sept. 30.

The weak sales of Saturn have left Sega with a mountain of inventory, Shioichiro Irimajiri, the company's president, said in March. Reducing that inventory from 24.2 billion yen as of March 1997 to 5.7 billion yen for the year just ended burred Sega, he said.

Sega's new machine will have more compatible with PCs than any other video-game machine has been," Mr. Lucas said. That puts pressure particularly on Nintendo because Sony is probably closer to developing a replacement for the PlayStation than Nintendo is for the Nintendo 64, Mr. Lucas said.

Sega shares rose 130 yen to 2,390. (Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

Dreamcast was developed in cooperation with Microsoft, Hitachi Ltd., VideoLogic Group PLC and Yamaha Corp. The machine will use a Hitachi SH microchip and NEC's new three-dimensional graphics chip, the PowerVR.

Industry sources say the machine will sell for less than \$200.

"If Sega can keep the price down, the Dreamcast could be a killer machine," said Dan Lucas, an analyst at Towa Securities Co. If Sega can market the machine successfully and find the right software it could capture 20 percent to 30 percent of the global market within 18 months, Mr. Lucas said.

"The machine will be more compatible with PCs than any other video-game machine has been," Mr. Lucas said. That puts pressure particularly on Nintendo because Sony is probably closer to developing a replacement for the PlayStation than Nintendo is for the Nintendo 64, Mr. Lucas said.

Sega shares rose 130 yen to 2,390. (Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

Sumitomo and Daiwa See Profit**After Year of Losses on Bad Loans**

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Sumitomo Bank Ltd. and Daiwa Bank Ltd., two of Japan's biggest banks, posted losses Thursday for their latest year to try to mop up a large part of their problem-loan mess.

But they said that their move would help them return to reasonable profits for the current year, ending next March.

Sumitomo Bank was especially confident that it would be able to manage its bad-loan problems after it took a 1.04 trillion-yen (\$7.6 billion) charge against 1997-98 results to cover existing and potential loan losses.

"There are some uncertainties such as the Asian situation," said Masayuki Oku, a director at Sumitomo Bank. "But the prospects are good for cleaning up our problem loans."

Sumitomo posted a pretax loss of 502.7 billion yen for the year that ended March 31. It had a profit of 68.1 billion yen the previous year. The bank said it expected a profit of 170 billion yen in the current year. The figures are for the parent company.

only and do not include subsidiaries.

At the end of March, Sumitomo's problem loans outstanding, calculated according to U.S. accounting rules, totaled 1.47 trillion yen, or 4.09 percent of its total loans outstanding. The bank said it had already covered 85.6 percent of its expected losses on problem loans.

Daiwa Bank said it expected a parent-company pretax profit of 22 billion yen in its current year after posting a loss of 151.22 billion yen for the year just ended. It estimated it would take loan-loss charges this year of 40 billion yen, compared with 389.8 billion yen in the year that ended March 31.

The bank also projected a parent-company operating profit of 65 billion yen this year, down from 96.46 billion yen in the most recent year, partly because the bank will continue cutting back its overseas assets. Daiwa said that while it had 958.1 billion yen of problem loans at the end of March, 71.5 percent of that amount had been covered by loan-loss reserves.

(Reuters, AFX)

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NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

Shareholders are informed that effective on 18 May 1998 CAZENOUE FUND MANAGEMENT LIMITED of 12 Tokenhouse Yard, London, EC2R 7AN was appointed new Sub-Manager and Advisor of the English and Irish portfolio in place of FP ASSET MANAGERS LIMITED, 15 Old Bailey, London EC4N 7AP.

FP ASSET MANAGERS LIMITED is no longer Promoter nor Distributor and Nominee of Esprit SICAV.

A new Prospectus dated May 1998 will be available at the registered office of the SICAV.

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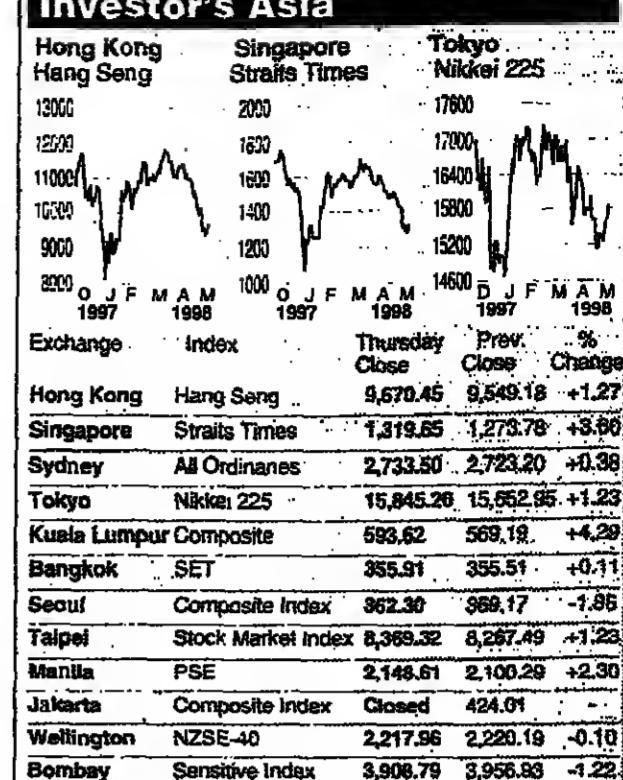
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Investor's Asia

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Buybacks Bolster Tokyo Stock Market

Bloomberg News

TOKYO — More than 150 Japanese companies have announced plans in the past three days to buy back millions of their own shares to try to push up depressed stock prices.

Sharp Corp., Nippon Steel Corp., Toyota Motor Corp. and Pioneer Electronic Corp. are among the companies that have announced plans to buy back shares under a law that took effect April 1. This month alone, at least 300 listed companies have said they will buy back or have already bought back their shares.

"It's a freebie, win-win restructuring for Japan," said Kevin Heiner, strategist at SBC Warburg. "No plants are closed, no workers are fired, there's no cost and lots of advantages."

The announcements had an immediate impact on share prices. The wave of buybacks helped push the benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index up 337.56 points, or 3.5 percent, over the past week. The index closed at 15,845.25 on Thursday, up 192.25 points, or 1.2 percent, on the day.

"Investors are just buying the shares on the announcement effect," said Craig Chudler, a strategist at Salomon Smith Barney (Japan).

Until last month, the Japanese government allowed companies to buy back shares only with their retained earnings — the portion of earnings not paid out to shareholders — up to a limit of 10 percent of the number of shares outstanding.

The announcements come in the thick of Japan's earnings season, with more than 2,500 companies reporting their results for the year that ended March 31 and making forecasts for the current year.

Buybacks can benefit shareholders by reducing the number of shares outstanding, which increases earnings per share. They are often also seen as a vote of confidence in a company whose price has fallen so fast that it may be ready to rise again.

NASDAQ

Thursday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press

The Associated Press

NYSE

• **Thursday's 4 P.M. Close**

(Continued)

RECO 100

NYSE																											
Thursday's 4 P.M. Close (Continued)																											
12 Month High Low Stock			Div Yld PE 100% High			Sis LowLoLest Chge			12 Month High Low Stock			Div Yld PE 100% High			Sis LowLoLest Chge			12 Month High Low Stock			Div Yld PE 100% High			Sis LowLoLest Chge			
12 Month High Low Stock	Div Yld PE	100% High	LowLoLest	Chge	12 Month High Low Stock	Div Yld PE	100% High	LowLoLest	Chge	12 Month High Low Stock	Div Yld PE	100% High	LowLoLest	Chge	12 Month High Low Stock	Div Yld PE	100% High	LowLoLest	Chge								
27/2 12/4 NaFaBrCs	.40	1.0	25	2822	24/2	22/2	24	24	-7/8	46/4 Pembr	.60	1.4	20	600	44/4	43/4	43/4	7/8	14/4 RebrGre	.40	2.0	15	167	20	29/4	30	-7/8
14/4 8/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	2240	15/4	15/4	15/4	15/4	-7/8	47/4 PopEx	.72	1.1	40	2831	23/4	23/4	23/4	-7/8	51/4 Shmtr	.50	1.5	12	197	20	19/4	19/4	-7/8
12/4 7/4 NaFaC	.20	2.0	22	2222	15/4	15/4	15/4	15/4	-7/8	52/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	301	51/4	51/4	51/4	-7/8	52/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	6206	63/4	60/4	60/4	-7/8
10/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	5730	63/4	67/4	67/4	67/4	-7/8	53/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	2804	23/4	23/4	23/4	-7/8	53/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	6206	63/4	60/4	60/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.20	5.1	22	5730	63/4	67/4	67/4	67/4	-7/8	54/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	614	12/4	12/4	12/4	-7/8	54/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1216	12/4	12/4	12/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.20	5.1	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	55/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	478	71/4	70/4	70/4	-7/8	55/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1216	12/4	12/4	12/4	-7/8
24/4 12/4 NaFaC	.30	4.2	18	91	23/4	23/4	23/4	23/4	-7/8	56/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	23	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	56/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
23/4 12/4 NaFaC	.30	4.2	23	2129	10/4	39/4	39/4	39/4	-7/8	57/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	57/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 7/4 NaFaC	.40	4.0	55	4094	31/4	31/4	31/4	31/4	-7/8	58/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	301	11/4	11/4	11/4	-7/8	58/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 11/2 NaFaC	.10	1.2	13	7932	12/4	12/4	12/4	12/4	-7/8	59/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	59/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
21/4 11/2 NaFaC	.10	1.2	20	600	20/4	19/4	19/4	19/4	-7/8	60/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	60/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
28/4 15/2 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	252	26/4	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	61/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	61/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	2071	23/4	23/4	23/4	23/4	-7/8	62/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	62/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
5/4 2/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	916	16/4	16/4	16/4	16/4	-7/8	63/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	63/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	5730	63/4	67/4	67/4	67/4	-7/8	64/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	64/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
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12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	68/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	68/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	69/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	69/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	70/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	70/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	71/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	71/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
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12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	73/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	73/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	74/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	74/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	75/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	75/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	76/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	76/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	77/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	77/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	78/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	78/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
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12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	81/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4	-7/8	81/4 ShmtrAO	.58	1.4	12	1072	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8
12/4 5/4 NaFaC	.00	0.0	22	1978	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	-7/8	82/4 PopExP	.40	1.1	30	27	26/4	26/4	26/4										

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Italy Picks Baggio

SOCCER Cesare Maldini, the Italian coach, on Thursday included Roberto Baggio in his roster for the World Cup. Maldini also recalled Giuseppe Bergomi, a 34-year-old Inter Milan defender. Maldini omitted forwards Gianfranco Zola and Pierluigi Casiraghi. (AP)

Cipollini Wins Sprint

CYCLING Mario Cipollini sprinted to victory in the fifth stage of the Tour of Italy in Frascati on Thursday. It was his career 23rd stage win in the race, a record.

Michele Bartoli, who started the day one second behind Sergei Goncharov, won a sprint bonus to take the overall lead by three seconds. (AP)



Mario Cipollini cruising after winning a Tour of Italy stage.

Devils Hire Fidorek

ICE HOCKEY Robbie Fidorek, the New Jersey Devils' top assistant for the past two years, took over as the team's head coach on Thursday.

Fidorek, 46, replaced Jacques Lemaire, who resigned May 8 after the Devils were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by Ottawa. The Devils had the best regular-season record in the Eastern Conference.

New Jersey won the Stanley Cup in 1993, the second of Lemaire's five years with the team. But they missed the playoffs the following year. (AP)

South Africa Wins

CRICKET South Africa took a 1-0 lead in the three-match series against England on Thursday with a comfortable three-wicket at the Oval in south London.

England, forced to bat first on a cloudy morning, made 223 runs for nine wickets from its 50 overs. Nick Knight was top scorer with 54.

Jacques Kallis hit 62 and skipper Hansie Cronje contributed 40 from 59 balls as South Africa reached the target with eight balls to spare. (AP)

After 32-Year Wait, Real Recaptures Cup

But Madrid Coach Faces an Uncertain Future

By Peter Berlin
International Herald Tribune

AMSTERDAM — The wait is over for Real Madrid, but the waiting goes on for Jupp Heynckes.

Real, coached by Heynckes, won the Champions Cup, formerly the European Cup, on Wednesday night when it beat Juventus, 1-0, in Amsterdam. It was the club's record seventh victory in the competition, but its first since 1966.

The team had spent more than 30 years struggling to recapture past glories. Yet Heynckes, the coach who has brought the cup back to Madrid in his first year in charge, seems certain to lose his job. Even with the cup in his grasp, Lorenzo Sanz, the club president, seems unsure whether Heynckes has been a success or a failure.

Last summer, Heynckes took over the team from Fabio Capello, an Italian who had taken Real to the Spanish title.

Real started this season in dazzling style, racing to the top of the league in Spain, obliterating opponents in Europe. Yet as the season progressed, Real's form, especially in Spain, waned. Real finished fourth in the league, far behind the champion, its hated rival, Barcelona. In Europe, its form, and luck, held well enough to carry it to the final.

This subplot lent a surreal tone to the final. On the day before the match, Christian Panucci, Real's Italian defender, was told by a journalist that Capello had just been fired after one year in his second stint at AC Milan. Panucci was asked if he would like Capello to return to Real. "I hope so," said the player. "I have a good relationship with him."

Heynckes, sitting in the next chair, did not even blink.

At the press conference after the victory, the first question for Heynckes was whether he had just coached his last match in charge of Real. He complained that he wanted to talk about the victory and refused to answer the question.

At intervals, late-arriving Spanish journalists asked Heynckes whether he had quit or been fired and all received the same non-answer, which communicated so much.

The game itself was similarly frustrating. Two talent-laden teams were more adept at setting problems than solving them.

Afterward, Heynckes complained that the squad he had inherited at Real Madrid had neither the depth nor the balance to contend in both the Spanish League and Europe. (So it was all Sanz's fault, after all.) Yet on the field it was clear that his team, whatever its balance, was deeper than Juve's.

It was the Italian champion's third straight final. After the previous two it had sold players. Juvetus can still field Zinedine Zidane and Alessandro Del Piero, the two outstanding players in the earlier rounds of this year's competition. On Wednesday, some of those around them were out of their depth.

The game itself, with only seven shots on goal and 51 fouls in the 90 minutes the ball was in play, was a sobering reminder of how much the game has changed since Real Madrid thrashed

Eintracht Frankfurt, 7-3, in the 1960 final. In those days, teams picked five or six attackers or creative midfielders. On Wednesday, two of Europe's strongest attacking teams opted for three each.

Heynckes adopted a formation that emphasized, in his own words, "discipline and order."

Roberto Carlos, the exciting Brazilian defender, curbed his attacking instincts. Christian Karembeu, the muscular French midfielder, who had played right wing and scored against Borussia Dortmund, was brought inside to clog up the midfield.

Clarence Seedorf, the even more muscular Dutch midfielder, notionally played wide on the left, but he kept drifting inside, too. These two, along with Fernando Redondo, a muscular Argentine, are the models of modern midfielders.

They do not lack skill, but none of them are creative in the old-fashioned manner exemplified by Ferenc Puskas, an *inside forward* on the great Real team. Between them they displayed hardly a twinkle of flair all evening. Nevertheless, they slowly overpowered the lighter Juve midfield and, hunting together, smothered Zidane, the one truly creative player in either midfield.

The diminutive Del Piero, meanwhile, was flattened every time he was touched by ball by either Fernando Hierro or Manuel Sanz, Real's center backs. The other nine Juve players — with the occasional exception of midfielder Edgar Davids — were incapable of picking up the creative slack.

In the end, Roberto Carlos broke his shackles, his shot ricocheted to Pedrag Mijatovic who danced past Angelo Peruzzi, the Juve goalie, and scored.

Juve responded like a champion.

Filippo Inzaghi hit a golden chance. Davids squirmed through the Real defense but shot straight at Bodo Illgner, the Real goalkeeper, and a curling free kick from Zidane narrowly missed the goal. But Real reassured its control.

At least 20 of the men who played on Wednesday will be going to the World Cup. Of those, only Mijatovic, a Yugoslav, and Hierro, a Spaniard, escaped their reputations.

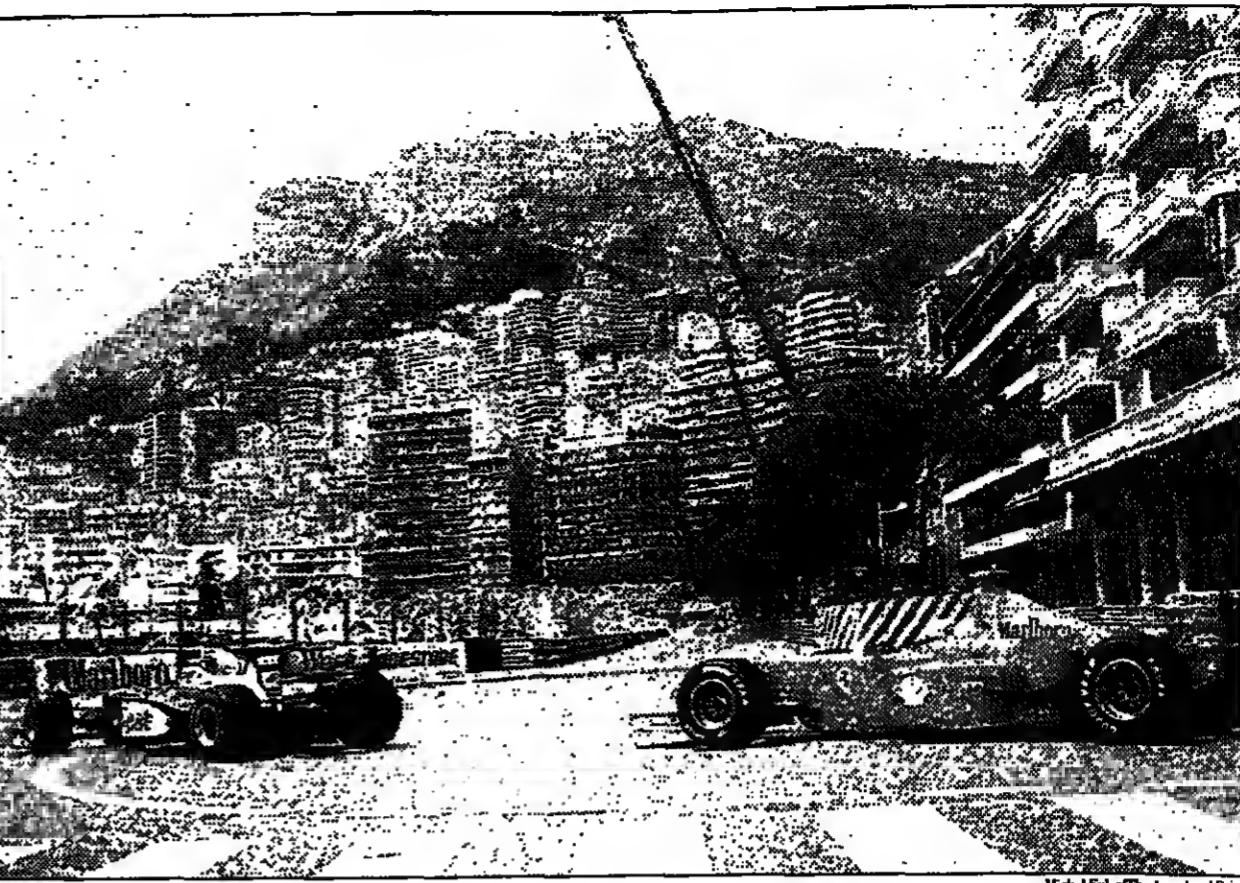
Del Piero, meanwhile, strained his thigh and on Thursday was omitted from Italy's squad for the World Cup, although a place will be kept open for him until the final deadline on June 2.

Now, while Heynckes waits to answer questions on his future, the 500 million fans who watched his victory on television, wait to find out if this final, rich in promise, so poor in cootie, is a portent for the greater cup to come.

Fans Fight Police in Madrid

Street battles broke out early Thursday in Madrid as Real fans celebrated their team's European Cup victory. Reuters reported.

Victory celebrations by hundreds of thousands of fans turned violent when many started throwing rocks and bottles at the police, who responded with rubber bullets and tear gas. More than 50 people were hurt, including 30 police officers, and six fans were arrested, state media reported.



Mika Hakkinen racing ahead of Eddie Irvine in a practice session Thursday for the Monaco Grand Prix.

Twin Peaks of Auto-Racing Season

On Sunday, It's the Monaco Grand Prix and the Indy 500

By Brad Spurgeon
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The two most famous motor races in the world take place back to back on Sunday on two different continents. Although the cars look almost the same, the two races are a study in contrasts.

The first runs through the twisty streets of a picturesque tourist resort on an escarpment overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. Less than two hours after that race finishes, the second will be run on an oval-shaped track in a Midwestern U.S. city on flat land, with a clump of downtown skyscrapers surrounded by suburban sprawl as a backdrop.

The Monaco Grand Prix and the Indianapolis 500 are the two peaks of the single-seat, open-wheel racing season. But while the sport has never been more popular, a third race Saturday, the Champ Car meeting — formerly IndyCar — the Motorola 300, in Madison, Illinois, is a reminder that the sport has problems.

The Indianapolis 500 runs under the auspices of the Indy Racing League, which was started in 1996 by Tony George, president of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. George, 38, is the grandson of Tooy Hulman who bought the Speedway in 1945 for \$750,000 and turned it into a multimillion dollar family empire.

"Just the fact that this is the 82nd running of the Indianapolis 500, and its great history and tradition, allows it to enjoy the success it does," George said. "Monaco, with its history and tradition and the great names that have raced and won there in the past, has a lot of the same qualities."

But in 1994, when George announced his intention to create his own series whose crown-jewel race would be the Indy 500, the people at Championship Auto Racing Teams, or CART, Indianapolis' sanctioning body, thought he was playing with history. The Indianapolis 500 had been the premier IndyCar race for over 20 years, so CART, which is still the world's top oval racing formula, decided to pull out and create its own 500-mile (800-kilometer) race in Michigan.

"The sport's domination by the Indy 500 slowed its development," said Andrew Craig, the chief executive of CART. "You had this one big race that dominated the whole year, and it wasn't very clear to the fans as consumers what

was important. Was it important to win the championship? To win the Indy 500? The Indianapolis 500 almost consumed the sport of open-wheel racing."

In 1996, CART staged the Michigan 500 at the same time as the Indianapolis 500. The older race won the battle for attention with a more exciting and dramatic race. CART has since scheduled its Michigan race later in the season. The Motorola 300 on Saturday is just another of its series of 19 races.

In 1995, the last time the Indy 500 and the Grand Prix of Monaco ran on the same day, the winner of Indy was Jacques Villeneuve, the future Formula One champion. Villeneuve grew up in Monaco and is there again this week as a member of the Williams team. He said before the 1995 Indy race that he would rather be in Indianapolis than Monaco.

After that race he said, "To win it is as big as winning the championship. If you have a choice of one race to win, make sure it's the 500."

In his two races at Monaco, in 1996

and 1997, he has fared poorly. Part of the problem is the nature of the track. Villeneuve is a specialist on the kind of wide fast corners featured at Indy.

Monaco favors drivers who are like slalom skiers and can negotiate the tight corners through the twisty city circuit.

Formula One has its own problems. And Monaco may magnify them. Five different drivers won the first five CART races this year. In Formula One, McLaren cars have won four out of the first five, lapping just about everyone.

Monaco, for all its historical glory — the race started in 1929 — risks being another walkover if a McLaren gets the pole position, since the track is the best example of what's wrong with Formula One: it is hard to overtake.

Max Mosley, president of the International Automobile Federation, Formula One's governing body, said this was not a flaw. "People like this stalking, waiting, and then be goes for it," he said. "Rather than constant overtaking, it's a little bit like the difference between soccer and basketball. You don't get goalless baskets in basketball. And in most soccer matches, there's one or two goals in the whole one and a half hours. A goal is a big event. In basketball, you get more than a hundred, and it's not a big event."

At Monaco, fans usually have to wait a long time for a goal. But history shows the race is usually won by only the greatest drivers. Graham Hill domina-

ted in the 1960s with five victories. From 1984 to 1993, only two drivers won — Ayrton Senna six times, and Alain Prost four. Since then, Michael Schumacher's winning streak there has been interrupted only by Olivier Panis's victory in 1996 in the rain.

Whatever their problems may be, each series is inescapably international in nature. The Formula One season includes races on five continents. CART this year held its first race in Japan, and also stages races in Brazil, Australia, and Canada. IRL races only in the U.S., but most of the cars are made by the Italian company, Dallara. Most CART cars are British built.

George said he created the IRL partly to give more chance to American drivers. Only a third of CART drivers are American, while two-thirds are American in IRL.

"There was never an opportunity for young American drivers who had come up through the ranks," he said. "It became very important for the driver to bring money. And a lot of the European and South American drivers would be able to bring money. I just wanted to create more of an opportunity, but not to the exclusion of any other drivers or of any other country."

IN THE 1950s, Formula One drivers who drove at Indy gained world championship points. George is negotiating with Bernie Ecclestone, Formula One's commercial promoter, to hold a U.S. Grand Prix at the Indy 500 track. This would mean using only part of the oval, and building the rest of the track in the infield.

The CART race Saturday will reach over 60 million viewers in 180 countries. Its races draw about 1 billion viewers annually. Formula One claims a total of 5 billion for its season. The IRL series is out a big draw, but the Indianapolis 500 will attract 110 million viewers.

The Indianapolis 500 is also a huge draw at the track, attracting close to 400,000 spectators.

Rhys Jones, a fan who lives in Indianapolis, said that local residents "see it as their civic duty to fill the stands."

Ticket sales have been down since CART's withdrawal, but that means that instead of having to pay scalpers two to three times their value, fans can get tickets when they want them.

"Which, to me, is progress," Jones said.

Coaches' Protest Disrupts NFL Symposium

New York Times Service

A group of about 50 to 60 National Football League coaches and assistant coaches, upset with issues they say include race and age discrimination and the NFL pension plan, staged a protest

on the last day of the league

meetings in Coral Gables, Florida.

The league had organized a coaching symposium, but when it started at 8 A.M. with a talk by Bill Walsh, a former coach of the San Francisco 49ers, the disgruntled coaches held a meeting of their own outside.

Entering the symposium 15 minutes late, they said the reason for the protest was to show the league that coaches, particularly assistants, were unified and prepared to take part. They claim there is a bias against older assistants since less than 3 percent of all assistant coaches are over 60.

NFL assistants, despite their six-figure salaries and guaranteed contracts, say they are a vulnerable group because they can be fired at any time.

The protesting coaches included Ray Rhodes, the Philadelphia Eagles' head coach,

and Art Shell, a former head coach of the Oakland Raiders who is currently an assistant with the Atlanta Falcons. Both are black.

The protest was first planned to be over the fact that there are only three black head coaches out of 30 in the league. Their older coaches, mainly in their 60s, wanted to take part. They claim there is a bias against older assistants.

"We've been talking to them, more than talking to them — we've changed a number of policies."

The owners also approved a limited return of the instant replay. It will be used in 11 nationally televised exhibition games this season.

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FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1998

All's Calm As Yankees Again Beat The Orioles

The Associated Press
There was calm after the storm at Yankee Stadium.

One night after a wild brawl between the Yankees and Orioles, both teams were on their best behavior in New York's 9-6 victory over Baltimore.

Three batters were hit by pitches Wednesday night, but all took their

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

bases without incident as the Yankees handed the Orioles their seventh successive loss.

"I think everybody thought, 'Turn the page, yesterday doesn't count,'" said Joe Torre, the Yankees' manager.

Before the game, Torre and the Orioles' manager, Ray Miller, spoke to their teams about getting over Tuesday night's brawl, which resulted in the suspension of five players.

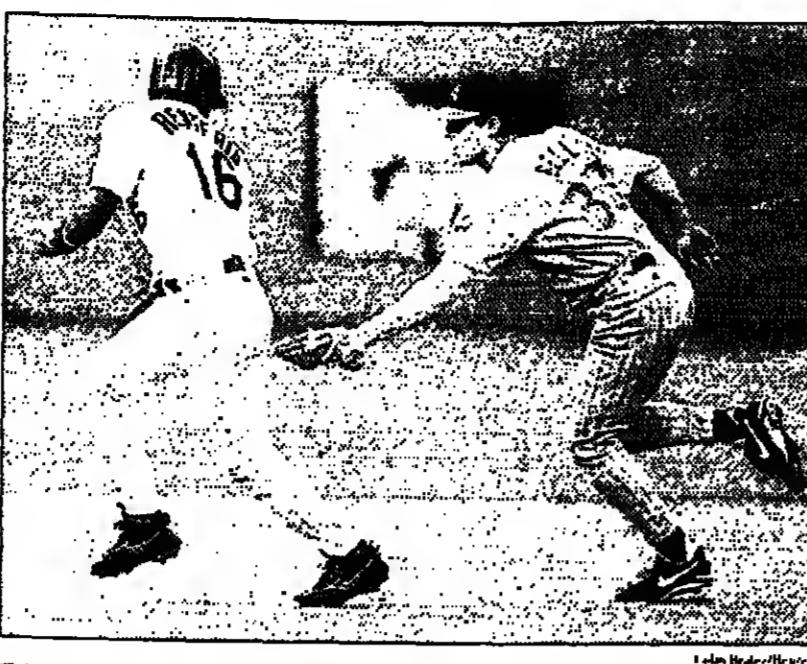
Derek Jeter tripled, doubled and singled, and Tim Raines drove in three runs as the Yankees roughed up a former teammate, Jimmy Key, and won their fourth straight. Scott Brosius homered and Jorge Posada doubled twice for New York.

Hideki Irabu (3-0) allowed only two runs in six and a half innings to give him a major league-leading 1.40 earned run average after six starts.

Armando Benitez, an Orioles relief pitcher, was suspended for eight games for intentionally throwing at Tino Martinez.

Alan Mills of the Orioles and Jeff Nelson of the Yankees were suspended two games each.

Red Sox 8, White Sox 2 In Boston, Pedro Martinez scattered four hits over seven innings to improve to 5-0 and Mo



Edgar Renteria of the Marlins trying vainly to escape a rundown.

Vaughn hit his 12th homer for the Red Sox.

Blue Jays 9, Devil Rays 1 Jose Canseco hit one of four Toronto home runs and Pat Hentgen pitched eight strong innings in the Blue Jays.

Indiana 14, Royals 5 Kenny Lofton drove in a career-high five runs and Travis Fryman homered, singled and doubled for Cleveland at Kansas City.

Pirates 12, Twins 11 Damion Easley hit a pair of two-run homers and drove in six runs as Detroit came back from an 8-2 deficit.

Rangers 8, Mariners 7 Lee Stevens hit two homers and Texas took advantage of another collapse by Seattle's bullpen to rally from a six-run deficit in Arlington. Seattle's Alex Rodriguez hit a pair of runs to give him a league-leading 18.

Angels 5, Athletics 4 Darin Erstad homered and drove in three runs, and Tim Salmon added a two-run shot as Anaheim beat visiting Oakland.

In the National League:

Cardinals 8, Phillies 5

Mark McGwire, the major leagues' home-run leader, took a day off and his replacement at first base belted two homers.

Gary Gaetti, normally a third baseman, hit a pair of two-run homers as St. Louis won in Philadelphia. Gaetti had hit just two home runs in his first 130 at-bats.

McGwire, whose three homers Tuesday night gave him 20, took a scheduled night off.

"We'll have a staff meeting and see if he deserves to play tomorrow," Tony La

Russa, the Cardinals' manager, joked afterward.

Pirates 5, Padres 2; Padres 3, Pirates 3 Greg Vaughn hit a two-run homer and Sterling Hitchcock pitched his best game since he rejoined the starting rotation as San Diego earned a split of a doubleheader in Pittsburgh.

In the opener, Francisco Cordova shut out the Padres until the ninth inning and San Diego's shaky defense led to a four-run sixth inning for the Pirates.

Cubs 5, Dodgers 0 Kevin Tapani pitched a three-hitter and Henry Rodriguez hit his 10th homer as Chicago moved nine games over .500 for the first time since 1995.

Astros 4, Expos 3 Derek Bell hit a tie-breaking single in the ninth inning as Houston won at Montreal.

Diamondbacks 7, Marlins 3 Matt Williams capped a six-run fifth inning with a grand slam as Arizona spoiled Mike Piazza's home debut for Florida.

Piazza, given the night's biggest ovation by the crowd of 17,560, singled in four at-bats.

Braves 5, Rockies 1 Michael Tucker hit a two-run homer in the first inning to help Kevin Millwood (6-1) to victory.

Giants 4, Brewers 2 Orel Hershiser pitched seven strong innings for his third consecutive victory and contributed two singles to lead San Francisco to a victory on the road.

Reds 6, Mets 6 Ed Taubensee hatted in three runs and Lenny Harris drove in two as Cincinnati snapped a four-game losing streak.

How will his team take it? As an act of principle, which it was? As an act of weakness? Or betrayal of team solidarity? Will Benitez become a club scapegoat? Will a collapsing last-place team that risks saying, "We're sorry," sink even lower? Or will they band together?

The preliminary results, please. The Yankees blasted the Orioles again on Wednesday night, scoring nine runs off Jimmy Key in a 9-6 victory. That's seven straight Baltimore losses and 23 defeats in 33 games. The Orioles trail the Yankees by 13 games, 16 in the loss

column. Even the wild-card spot is 8½ games above them.

If nothing else, Miller has his high standards to keep him warm. For 20 years, Miller has been consistent in his views on violence. No beanballs — ever. Retaliation, while sometimes necessary, should never be near a batter's head.

VANTAGE POINT

But, if a brawl starts, protect your mates. So he said in public what he's always said in private. And he didn't care who liked it or what price he might pay.

"I issue a full apology to Tino Martinez in particular and the Yankees in general," Miller said Wednesday, after learning that Benitez had been suspended for eight days for inciting a baseball riot. "When a very, very immature young kid loses control, he doesn't represent the rest of us in this organization.

"This I can't beat you, so I'll hurt you," has no place in baseball. That's an important issue in sports.

"It wasn't a very smart thing to do," said Miller, getting more somber as he spoke.

Miller explained that, starting with manager Earl Weaver in the 1960s, the Orioles had always "retaliated" when other teams went beyond the game's unwritten rules but had "never" been the initiators of beanballs or brawls. To illustrate, he cited Alan Mills, who was also suspended for two days for decking Darryl Strawberry with a running roundhouse right to the mouth.

"I feel bad that Alan Mills got suspended," Miller said. Referring to the American League president, Gene Budig, Miller said he told him that "when somebody [Strawberry] runs into your dugout and punches one of your players in the back of the head, you're supposed to defend your teammates. That's as cowardly as throwing at somebody."

"If you want to fight somebody, square off. Alan squared off and took care of business. He did it very well. I'm proud of him for that."

To those outside baseball, the distinction between a punch in the mouth and a fastball in the back may be so comically small as to call into question the intellects of all those involved in the activity. To those in the game, however,

the former is an act of honor while the latter is the definition of dishonor.

Benitez, who claimed he did not hit Martinez on purpose, did not come to Yankee Stadium on Wednesday. However, several Orioles spoke of him almost bitterly as the Yankees. New York's Paul O'Neill said, "A lot of their players probably feel the same way about him that we do."

Three years ago, Benitez did exactly the same thing to Martinez, hitting him with the first pitch after allowing a home run to the previous hitter. The Orioles were so disgusted that they sent Benitez back to the minors.

"It was kind of demoralizing and embarrassing to me," said the Orioles' pitching coach, Mike Flanagan, of the incident. "We had just played the best seven innings of baseball that we'd played in five weeks. The mood of this club was changing. The bench was up and alive and banting."

"You can't get around it. What he did was bad. And what timing. That was our first game with New York" of the season. "Now, we are not going to have one easy game with them this year. And maybe next year. And maybe the year after that, too."

Said the Yankees' O'Neill: "I don't think it's over. You can't forget something like that. That's as blatant as I've ever seen. We'll use it as incentive to continue to go after them."

The Orioles will be tempted to make Benitez the scapegoat for their troubles. He's always been a socially ill-at-ease young player from a poor Dominican background with a slim command of English. He has enormous talent, a temper, a haughty bearing and takes both instruction and teasing poorly.

Benitez also gave up three game-losing hits to the Indians in the playoffs last year. So, he's an easy target for the Orioles' failure to reach a very winnable World Series last fall.

For the Orioles as a team, this is likely to be a turning point. Miller, with no managerial accolades in his past, has had a tight grip on this group of rich old stars. Who is he really? What does he stand for? How far can you push him? What do you have to do to make him mad?

Now, they know.

But will it help?

SPORTS

A Rare, and Dangerous, Apology

How Will Orioles React to Manager's Soft Words to Yankees?

By Thomas Boswell
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — Ray Miller has taken his first step toward defining his step as the Baltimore Orioles' manager. With every television camera in New York trained on him, Miller apologized to Tino Martinez and the New York Yankees for Tuesday night's brawl here, incited by an Orioles beanball pitch.

You don't see that every day. Or every decade.

When was the last time a Washington Redskins coach said, "I'm very sorry" to the Dallas Cowboys? What next? Will Pat Riley call the Knicks to say, as Miller did to the Yanks, "I hope they'll be able to respect us."

How many melees has Yankee Stadium seen since Babe Ruth's day? How many times has an angry young pitcher with more passion than judgment watched a Yankee home run disappear into the upper deck and responded by drilling the next New York hitter in the back with a fastball? How often have the benches cleared and a few haymakers landed on chin?

A game-breaking home run, followed by a cowardly, dangerous retaliation and a donnybrook is an ugly baseball sequence. But in 130 years, nobody's figured out how to stop it. The scene recurs, like a grisly ritual, in various parks each season.

How often, however, does a manager apologize to his team's rival and put full blame on his own pitcher — in this case, Armando Benitez, Miller made that stand Wednesday, one that is as dramatic and dicey — for him — as any knockdown pitch.

How will his team take it? As an act of principle, which it was? As an act of weakness? Or betrayal of team solidarity? Will Benitez become a club scapegoat? Will a collapsing last-place team that risks saying, "We're sorry," sink even lower? Or will they band together?

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Carlos Moya, Sp., 4-3, 7-5; Koen Kucera, Slovakia, def. Carlos Moya, Sp., 4-3, 7-5

ST. POELTEN 6, GRAND PRIX

THURSDAY IN ST. POELTEN, AUSTRIA

QUARTERFINALS

Andrea Gaudenz (4), Italy, def. Francisco Clavel (6), Spain 6-3, 6-4; Vincenzo Spada (4), Italy, def. Steffen Scholten, Netherlands 7-6, 7-3, 6-1

Marcelo Filippi, Uruguay, def. Thomas Muster (3), Austria 6-2, 6-2; Marcelo Rios (1), Chile, def. Goya Blanca (7), Spain 6-2, 6-2, 6-2

STRASBOURG INTERNATIONAL

QUARTERFINALS

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INDIA SPANISH 2, ROMANIA 1

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TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

All-Suspended Baltimore RHP Armando Benitez 8 games; N.Y. Yankees LHP Graeme Lloyd and OF Darryl Strawberry 3 games, and N.Y. Yankees RHP Jeff Nelson and Baltimore RHP Alan Mills 2 games for their parts in the 1997 All-Star Game. Benitez's suspension starts immediately; Mills' completed. Lloyd's suspension starts when Showberries ends and Nelson's starts when Lloyd's ends.

SOCCER

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP

FINAL

Real Madrid 1, Juventus 0

LIBERTADORES CUP

QUARTERFINALS, FIRST LEG

River Plate Arg., 2; Coton, Arg., 0

Penarol Uruguay, 2; Cero Porteno, Parag., 0

CYCLING

GIRO D'ITALIA

Leading positions Thursday in 5th stage, 206-kilometer, 127.7 miles, from Ostreto to Frecast, Italy:

1. Mario Cipollini, It., S. 200; 41, 44, 25, 26.

2. Silvio Martinelli, Italy, S. 200; 41, 44, 25, 26.

3. Sergio Sancristan, Russia, S. 200; 41, 44, 25, 26.

4. Fabio Baldini, Italy, S. 200; 41, 44, 25, 26.

5. Michele Bartoli, Italy, Asics, S. 200; 41, 44,

POSTCARD

Celtic Music Meets Pop

By Anthony DePalma
New York Times Service

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — "Newfoundland" rhymes with "understand," and no one does, at least not in the eyes of the people who live in what is surely one of the most isolated and eccentric places in North America.

To other Canadians, Newfoundlanders — with their penchant for munching cod tongues and living in places like Come by Chance — are fair game for cheap laughs and petty put-downs, a staple of television comedy.

Behind the funny facade and the brogish accents there is a quirky, durable island, usually called just The Rock. It's a tough place, especially since the cod disappeared a few years ago. Instead of silver fish, now it's oil that is pulled from the sea.

But one aspect of Newfoundland life that has remained constant is the music, a traditional blend of folk songs and Celtic melodies. The pubs of St. John's, the capital, continue to produce fine groups, and no one has had more success recently than Great Big Sea, a band that combines the traditional music of Newfoundland with a modern pop beat.

The band has had wide appeal. For the last three years it has been named "entertainer of the year" at Canada's East Coast Music Awards. Its first two major-label compact disks, "Up" and "Play," have each sold about 200,000 copies — huge amounts in Canada's comparatively small market.

On June 2, the group will release its first U.S. recording, "Rant and Roar," on Warner Brothers' Sire label. It will also tour coast to coast

in June, opening for Sinead O'Connor and the Irish group the Chieftains. It will play the Guinness Fleadh, a festival of Gaelic music in New York City, on June 13.

The four young men of the band, all from Newfoundland, play acoustical and traditional instruments, including the mandolin, the squeeze box (accordion), and the bodhran (a goatskin drum).

□ Alan Doyle, 28, the group's husky-voiced lead vocalist, described Great Big Sea as a 1990s contemporary band that plays traditional Newfoundland music. The sound is an offbeat mix of folk and pop music played in a rigorous style. Some of the recordings are new compositions that echo melodies of the old sea shanties; about half are traditional tunes juiced with pop.

The songs on the band's recordings, which celebrate life on the sea, are as evocative of Newfoundland as were the Beach Boys of California.

And that, the lads agree, is their biggest challenge as they gear up for their U.S. tour.

"In our experience and in a lot of other Canadian artists' experience, Americans don't think of Canada as the place where really cutting-edge and exciting music happens," said Bob Hallett, 29, who plays the squeeze box.

Steven Savoca, who handles Great Big Sea for Sire Records in New York, said he expected it to be more difficult for the band to cross over into mainstream music than it was in Canada. But he added: "One thing about the band is that they sing timeless melodies. You need only hear them once, and they stick in your head."

Where's the Art? Where's the Adrenaline?

By Janet Maslin
New York Times Service

CANNES — Sundance grads, pedophiles and dogmatic Danes dominate the cinematic landscape here. And all around this uncharacteristically quiet town, tails drag. The combined effects of art and adrenaline have yet to kick in at this year's Cannes International Film Festival. And the event has only until Sunday's closing-night ceremonies to make its mark.

Though a few very good films — including "La Vie Revoie des Anges" (The Dream Life of Angels) from a first-time French director, Erick Zonca; Hal Hartley's big, audacious "Henry Fool"; "The General," the best film in many years from John Boorman, about a rascally Irish thief; and Todd Solondz's poison-tipped "Happiness" — will manage to emerge from this year's

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

lineup, it's the letdowns that prevail. Like Wednesday's cancellation of the gala screening of a restored "Touch of Evil" (over fiscal difficulties with Orson Welles's daughter), which prompted someone working on the event to wail, "We're the 'Kurt and Courtney' of Cannes!" That film was a sudden no-show earlier this year at the Sundance Film Festival.

At least there's an early winner in the New Garbo sweepstakes: Lars Von Trier, the director of "Breaking the Waves." Famously phobic, he enhanced that legend in 1996 by getting halfway here to introduce that film, then abandoning the trip. This year he successfully made the pilgrimage but skipped his own news conference, which was attended by the cast of his film, "The Idiots."

Later in the week, he will hold forth at the exclusive and exorbitant Hotel du Cap d'Antibes, just the way Arnold Schwarzenegger and Sharon Stone do.

That's an interesting venue in light of Dogma 95, the attention-getting manifesto that for all its lofty principles plays like a press agent's dream. In this document, several Danish directors take a stylistic "vow of chastity," promising to return filmmaking to a purer style by eschewing weapons, special effects, soundtracks, conventional genres and even props and lighting.

Directorial credit is also forsaken, although the Dogma 95 group has indulged in a handsome color catalog for "The Idiots"

and large red envelopes that reprint the original statement. Here in Cannes, where Boy George just touched down to announce a new project, this qualifies as serious business.

And there are two films in competition exemplifying the raw, vertiginous style in question: "Festen" (The Celebration), from Thomas Vinterberg, and "The Idiots" itself, in which Von Trier imagines a collective of good-looking young provocateurs who pretend to be mentally handicapped as a way of challenging bourgeois attitudes. In addition to the preponderance of films involving sexual abuse of children (Vinterberg's, about a tumultuous family reunion, is one of them), skewering the bourgeoisie is Cannes's favorite on-screen sport this season. So is trying in shock: Hard-core sex figures briefly and incongruously in Von Trier's film.

Exactly what does "The Idiots" mean in communicate? Well, in the filmmaker's printed statement: "In film it's the village idiot who knows, and the man who knows who doesn't know. But what if the idiot isn't a real idiot (i.e. just an idiotic idiot)? Does that make him the man who knows who knows less, or the idiot who knows more; or the idiot who knows less or the man who knows more? Probably none of the above, but it's fun to pretend otherwise." Though the visual styles of both films can depart from and even eclipse their subjects, the Dogma affectations will be justly famous for their full 15 minutes this year.

Another film that has excited the interest of the European press is Nanni Moretti's "April," though the filmmaker's charming complaints that he has nothing to make a film about are this time too easy to believe. (The subjects here, none too easily interwoven, are Italian politics and the birth of Moretti's son, who becomes an instant prop.)

By contrast, a tepid reception greeted Hartley's "Henry Fool," though this breakthrough film is the most energetic and far-reaching work he's done. Loosely based on a clever, meticulous absurdism in Long Island settings, Hartley this time throws a couple of creative archetypes together in Queens and spins forth an archly hilarious comedy of art, commerce and friendship. Even audiences unmoved by earlier, more affectless Hartley films should be astonished by this one.

"Henry Fool" concerns a misfit garbage man named Simo Grim (played by James Urbaniak, who as Hartley points out has "that early Sam Beckett look") and the title

character, a grandiose self-styled literary figure.

It's about what happens when Henry persuades Simon to start writing poetry, and when Simon's unseen words start changing his little world (which is brightened considerably by Parker Posey, playing Simon's slatternly sister).

The dynamics between mentor and protégé, between real artist and fraud, between real and perceived worth are elegantly explored here, as is Hartley's droll observations about publishing, politics, religion and other major matters that widen the film's range. Thomas Jay Ryan, who plays Henry, and Urbaniak are forceful, visually striking stage actors who make themselves perfect embodiments of the filmmaker's thoughts.

"Henry Fool" leads a U.S. contingent of deadpan independents whose presence is much in evidence this year. The chilly, unaffected style of Lodge Kerrigan ("Clean, Shaven") remains stony in "Claire Dolan," with Karin Carridge (speaking in a flat, American accent) as a prostitute trying to

pay off a debt and change professions.

Contrasting graphic sexual episodes with stiff, dispassionate dialogue, it won't help popularize a neo-Sundance esthetic on a global scale. On the other hand, there's a strain of U.S. indie subversion apparent even in French films like "Siccom," by the darkly malevolent Francois Ozon (whose "See the Sea" was a highlight of the New Directors/New Films series this year). In this determinedly shocking comedy (which, like Solondz's "Happiness," is much too evilly funny for the main competition), a squeaky-clean family reaches new heights of the unspeakable when a laboratory rat casts a strange influence over their once-happy home.

Happily, this is the land where John Grisham's "Rainmaker" is called "L'Idéiste" and a female character from the gongo "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" is referred to as *la gonzesse*. But it remains to be seen how well this U.S. indie style of subversion really translates here.

PEOPLE

START spreading the news: The Big Apple is considering paying tribute to Frank Sinatra by making "New York, New York" the city's official song. The council speaker, Peter Vallone, said he would introduce legislation that would make the song the city's own. "Sinatra's great voice," he said, "will be heard by generations of New Yorkers as they listen with pride to their city's anthem."

A Paris civil court found the newspaper France-Soir guilty of defamation and invasion of privacy after it printed two articles alleging that the actor Robert De Niro was involved in a Paris prostitution ring. The daily was ordered to pay De Niro 80,000 francs (\$13,400) in damages. De Niro vowed never to set foot in France again after being taken in by the police in February for a nine-hour interrogation as a witness in an inquiry into a call-girl ring.

Tommy Lee was sentenced to six months in jail for kicking his wife, the actress Pamela Anderson of "Baywatch" fame, as she held their 7-week-old son. The Motley Crue drummer had pleaded no contest to felony spouse abuse.

The actress Carol Channing, 77, has filed for divorce from Charles Lowe, 86, saying that he had sex with her only twice during their 41-year marriage. She also said Lowe humiliated her in public, assaulted her and funneled off her earnings.

Mohamed al Fayed, whose son Dodi died alongside Diana, Princess of Wales, in a Paris car crash last year, is trying to buy the school that Diana attended as a young girl, a spokesman said. Al Fayed has offered £2.5 million (\$4 million) for

West Heath School in Sevenoaks, Kent, which closed last year through lack of funds. The Egyptian-born businessman plans to turn it into a school for traumurized children that would be a "living memorial" to Diana and Dodi.

The Liverpool home where Paul McCartney lived as a teenager before finding fame with the Beatles will be inaugurated in July as a museum. Visitors will be able to watch a television with programs of the 1950s, see family photos taken by McCartney himself, and even have a look at the outside too.

Luciano Pavarotti has been cleared of allegations of tax evasion. Italian authorities had investigated to determine whether the tenor, who resides in Monte Carlo, failed to pay taxes on \$5.7 million in earnings over a two-year period.

Antiquities Are Being Looted in Nigeria

By Janet Maslin
New York Times Service

"This does not include objects that were looted from archaeological and historical sites," he said, "as well as individual and family holdings, whose market value over the years may run into billions of dollars." He accused unnamed members of the diplomatic corps of using their privileges to smuggle out artifacts.

AN ARTISTIC BITE — Jean Chauvet, a Paris dental technician, will paint teeth with a Van Gogh self-portrait for 300 to 1,000 francs.



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